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THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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MARRIAGE.

On June 30th, at Shanghai, JOAO CLAUDIO, eldest son of the late JOSE CTRILLO D'AQUINO, to LILY MARIA, second daughter of the late Chevalier Eugenio Francisco Xavier dos Santos Remedios, F.R.G.S., Lis., etc., etc.

DEATHS.

On June 27th, at Shanghai, ALEXANDER MILLER, 2nd Engineer, s.s. *Peshawar*, aged 38 years.
On June 28th, at the Victoria Nursing Home LILY CURRIE, aged 15 years.
On July 5th, at 43, Caine Road, SARAH HONORIA Kew, aged 64 years.
On July 1st, at Shanghai, FRANK LEE, late Wharfinger, China Merchants' S.N. Co., Kinleeyuen Wharves, aged 72 years.
On July 2nd, at 22, Weihaiwei Road, of heart failure, A. W. MAITLAND, aged 60 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of June 5th arrived, per the ss. *Bayern*, on Tuesday, the 3rd instant; and the French Mail of June 8th arrived, per the ss. *Armand Behic*, to-day.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The estimated net income of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the first half-year is believed to be Yen 850,000.

The Japanese authorities are considering a proposal to establish wireless telegraph offices at several places for the benefit of the public.

M. Delbocca, engineer in the service of M. Marty's coal mines, was at Dong-Trien on 26th June attacked by pirates and seriously wounded. Madame Delbocca was uninjured.

A terrible series of discoveries have been made at Osaka, where a rich man and his wife are in custody on charges of baby-farming. It is alleged that a hundred children have been murdered by these monsters.

Recently the Singapore police arrested half-a-dozen Indian professional beggars. Most of them had considerable sums of money in their possession; one man was found to have the large sum of £8 in gold and \$40 in notes.

A telegram to the *Daily Press* said: The *Indien* proceeding down Huangpu on June 30th suddenly sheared, colliding with the *Loksang*, which was swinging at anchor, and seriously damaged her. The *Indien*, however, was able to proceed.

An electric light company, with a capital of 200,000 yen will be organised at Yungkow under joint ownership of Chinese and Japanese business men. The Tokyo Electric Light Company will supply the new concern with electric machinery.

We understand that the marriage of Mr. H. C. Wilcox, formerly of Messrs. Turner & Co., of this Colony, with Miss Mand Howarth, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Howarth of Russell House, Walmley, near Birmingham, is arranged to take place on the 19th inst. at the Parish Church, Walmley.

Police witnesses should really try to be more exact. An American gentleman from Shanghai, in trouble at Singapore, mentioned that he was the Resident of the North Saddle Islands, the Saddles being in the mouth of the Whangpu. A police inspector turned this into a claim that he was King of the Sandwich Islands.

The time originally fixed by the Japanese Government for disposing of real estate left by foreigners in the Kuangtung district was the seven months extending from February to August of this year. The time has now been extended by three months, during which period applications from foreigners for the recovery of their estates will be received.

The Water Police seized three Mauser rifles on board the s.s. *Hongkong Maru* when she arrived in port on July 6th. The arms were found among a passenger's luggage in a separate package, but as this passenger disclaimed them, and could not account for the rifles being found among his goods, they were confiscated. No arrest was made.

The numerous exaggerations about the "old" guns bought by H.E. Chang Chih-tung to "make a show with" at the manoeuvres have at last been authoritatively squashed. It appears that, unable to have the most modern guns delivered in time, H.E. purchased some serviceable weapons from Japan, which are exactly the same as those now used in the Japanese army.

At Kiukiang the dragon festival brought the usual boat races. The onlookers cheered the winning crews enthusiastically, while the losers were received with goodnatured chaff. The crew of one of the losing boats seemed to take offence with the criticism exercised on his efforts and a hand to hand fight ensued, during which according to the *Hankow News*, four men were killed.

A Chinaman who had patronised the Tai Ping theatre on June 29 was dissatisfied with his seat in the auditorium and attempted to reach the stage. He refused to leave when asked and had to be forcibly ejected. Outside he picked up a brick and threw it at the ticket collector, striking him on the face. For this he was placed before Mr. Gomeriz at the Magistracy next day and fined \$10.

A coolie employed in a merchant's shop at Queen's Road West has been in the habit, it appears, of carrying provisions and money to a branch at Stanley. While on this journey, on July 1st he was held up by two armed men, who threatened to stab him if he did not hand over the money. Throwing down a basket he carried, he told them there was \$10 in it, which they found and took away.

A memorial service at Yokohama for the horses killed in the Russo-Japanese war is described in a contemporary. For several hours there was before an altar attended by a Japanese priest, a procession of soldiers who in turn extolled the courage, endurance, and savagery of the horses they had ridden, and which had perished on the field of battle. It was a strange spectacle to see men, and women above all, in tears over the memory of these animals.

We regret to have to record the death which took place quite suddenly on July 2nd of Mr. A. W. Maitland, a resident of many years in China, and one of a family which has given several members to the Far East, where they have become prominent in business, in social life, and in sport. Mr. Maitland, who has latterly been manager of the Shanghai office of the Imperial Bank of China, had been ailing somewhat, but his condition was not regarded as serious and he was planning a holiday.

The *Nanfengpao* reports with respect to the opening of Antung and Tatung-kou to international commerce, that owing to the excessive prices asked by the Japanese owners for their land the original arrangements for the opening of the ports must be indefinitely postponed unless the Japanese can be induced to come to terms. It is further stated that the Japanese merchants secretly acquired nearly all the land outside the city walls suitable for the establishment of the foreign concessions, as soon as they knew that the ports would be thrown open.

A letter from Changsha, capital of Hunan states that news has been received from the districts of Siangtan, Ninghsiang, and Liuyang, all of which belong to Changsha prefecture, reporting the existence of Boxerism there; the propagators of which cult are trying with some success to get recruits to enter their society. It is the old story that if a recruit assiduously practices certain rites he will within a certain number of days become invulnerable to shot or steel. It would seem that the local authorities of the cities concerned are trying to shut their eyes to the danger that is threatening the peace of their districts, where owing to the famine resulting from the recent inundations the Boxer "professors" do not find it difficult to obtain proselytes, especially as there is some discontent and they are promised much plunder and food if they once join the brotherhood. It is to be hoped that due representations may be made to the proper quarters promptly to suppress this dangerous society in Hunan ere it becomes too large and powerful a body.—*N. C. Daily News.*

CANTON IN 1905.

(Daily Press, 30th June.)

The fourth fascicle of I.M.C. trade returns, relating to the twelve southern ports, from Santuao to Pakhoi, reached us yesterday. As might be expected, some of the notes dealing with our own immediate neighbourhood, and events and circumstances fresh in our memories, claim less interest than others. Thus the story of the financial depression of last year, so noticeable amongst our Chinese business men, does not need to be re-told, and the statement that Canton has acutely felt its effects goes without saying. Mr. F. J. MAYERS, the Acting Commissioner at Canton, thinks it probable that the actual influence of the adverse conditions of 1905 will be more noticeable in 1906, unless a revival should take place, of which he was unable in March to see any indications. The revenue collected at Canton was about forty-eight thousand taels ahead of the figures for 1904, the increase being set down to imports and opium duties. The net value of foreign imports was Tls. 26,255,221, an increase of more than a quarter of a million. The full significance of this advance cannot be realised without remembering that the silver value of the imports was reduced by the high exchange rate. The increased imports were opium (though Malwa decreased), piece goods (notably Plain Lastings, striped Flannel, Velvets, and Japanese Towels, also Lastings and Spanish Stripes amongst woollens), raw cotton (foreign) and foreign garments. Considerable developments in machinery may be looked for in future years: Mr. MAYERS thinks it unnecessary to say why. Tls. 200,000 worth of machinery passed through the native customs. Those who have followed the eccentric history of the Canton-Hankow railway scheme, as recorded from time to time in our columns, will not be surprised to learn that the railway material imported represented but small value. Although the Chinese Railway Board has operated the completed (Samsui) section since their appointment in October, no attempt has been made to resume construction work. Only one member of the former American staff remains, the TRAFFIC SUPERINTENDENT, and under his practical direction the Samsui line has proved very popular and remunerative. The passenger traffic showed a daily average in and out of Samsui of 970, the greatest number carried in one day being 14,750. The total number of passengers for the year was 2,657,489. Writing in March last, Mr. MAYERS considered the future of the main line uncertain, and the resumption of construction work likely to be retarded for some time; and nothing has happened since that really alters the position as he saw it. Staff and materials are still to get. The show of purpose made this month has been about as farcical as the appointment of the Chinese engineer referred to by our Canton correspondent in this issue.

There was a decrease of over two million taels in exports, "principally on goods intended for European and American markets—for the fact must not be overlooked that shipments to Hongkong are classed as foreign trade, though many of the goods do not actually find their way to foreign countries". The most interesting feature of this section seems to be the recovery of brown sugar, after two bad years. A big decrease in palm leaf fans is due to the deterioration in quality, which has apparently disgusted customers abroad. High exchange and dearness of cocoons seems to have

completely spoiled the raw silk trade for both sides. Many filatures shut down in consequence. "The once flourishing tea trade between Canton and London may now be said to be practically extinct", dwindling from eleven million pounds avoirdupois in 1885 to five millions in 1895 and only six hundred thousand in 1905. Boycott effects may be more apparent in the next report; meanwhile the only result noticeable is the increased export of native cigarettes and cigars, mainly, we suppose, for consumption in Hongkong. There was no change worth noting in tonnage; but the interesting remark is made that two British ships laden with American oil, one drawing over 23 feet, discharged at Whampoa, and were "probably the largest" that have ever got so far up the river. The work of improving the channels through the barriers in the Canton river, which were giving us so much concern two years ago, was completed in September, and apparently the Customs are as satisfied with the improvement as the shipping people. Finally, Mr. MAYERS tells us that at Canton the ravages of plague have been steadily decreasing during the past four years. This would combat the Hongkong idea obtaining to the contrary, if it were not that the returns obtained since Mr. MAYERS wrote appear to confirm the impression that Canton has this year shared with Hongkong a remarkable recrudescence of the disease.

SINOLOGISTIC JEALOUSIES.

(Daily Press, 2nd July.)

The title of Professor GILES' latest publication, *Adversaria Sinica*, suggests a plea that the contents will justify, if justification be really needed for such verbal fortitudes. It is that sinologues behave one towards another as if they were natural adversaries. In controversy, MILL once pointed out that anyone refuting the opinions of another laid himself open to the charge of assuming superiority over that other, and that this was unavoidable. Less compulsory, however, is the method of the typical sinologue, who, not content with superiority, real or assumed, seems impelled always to belittle the attainments of his opponent, and to refer to them in terms of contempt. To "pose as an authority" on things Chinese seems to be the sum of wickedness, in the eyes of the authority who shows how unwarranted is the pose. The net result, in the lay mind, must inevitably be akin to that contempt with which we behold sectarian strife, especially as many of the points about which sinologues argue most bitterly are similarly petty. The latest is a kind of SHAKESPEARE-BACON controversy as to who wrote the *Taoteh King*, and whether such a philosopher as LAOTSE ever really existed. In the search for evidence, among very thin materials, we can understand how great an enthusiasm might be forthcoming, and with what joy any new or apparently new item of information would be met; but except for one very unflattering explanation, we are puzzled as to the cause of the bitterness with which the searchers rend each other's discoveries to pieces. Dr. LEAGE and Dr. SMITH, as pioneers no longer claiming front seats in the arena, have their mistakes pointed out more temperately; but men who actually presume to say what they think and publish books about it have no mercy on each other. The contempt that Professor GILES has for Professor PARKER's writings is only equalled by the dislike that Professor PARKER entertains for the theories of Professor GILES; and smaller authorities

(if they will excuse that disrespectful and doubtless unwarranted qualification) assert that none of the modern sinologists is in a position, by training in Eastern history and mythology, to clear up the mysteries at present causing argument. Possibly we might be justified in going further and saying that none ever will be, notwithstanding that there are existing authorities who are cocksure enough to use the formula, "The fact of the matter is, of course—" a formula actually preceding the assertion that LAOTSE was invented to account for the *Taoteh King*. That is not impossible; authors for books, and philosophers for philosophies, have been invented in the past; but it is going rather too far to declare as a matter of fact that a person never existed because absolute proofs of his existence are not forthcoming. This, however, certain people have done in the case of Jesus the Nazarene, as well as in the case of LAOTSE the Chinaman. Now whether Professor PARKER be a sinologue or a mere empiric, we find him an entertaining and often suggestive writer; and great as is our respect for Professor GILES, it would not be lessened were he to show a little less intolerance for opinions other than his own. "In", he says, "the so-called translation by Professor E. H. PARKER in *China and Religion*, P. 271, we have (for the opening words of the *Taoteh King*) 'The Providence which could be indicated by words would not be an all embracing Providence'". We do not remember that Professor PARKER anywhere presents that as a literal translation; and while Professor GILES' translation ["The way that may be traversed is not the Eternal Way. The name that can be uttered is not the Eternal Name"] may be more literal, we fail to recognise its so-called simplicity. Professor PARKER gave us something sensible as a rendering of what literally translated is mere meaningless gibberish; and so far as the meaning of the original writer is concerned, we are as likely to find it in one as in the other. If it was not a Chinese version of the perennial human discovery that the finite cannot comprehend the infinite, it has little value. The word "way" in the Chinese, as in the Greek, often means system or principle; and the biblical phrase, "I am the way", meaning my way, or the way I teach, is the only proper way, is quite characteristically Chinese. This, however, in fear and trembling, and uttered with necessary appeals to the clemency of all sinologues and other experts.

Although Professor PARKER himself explained that, in comparison with the oldest Chinese writings, "the translators and opinionists" can have at best but secondary value, it is as an "opinionist" that we best like to hear him. Whether it be to agree or to disagree with, he rarely presents an opinion that is not suggestive. From a note to his "so-called translation" of the *Taoteh King*, it is clear that he attempted to translate ideas as well as words, an attempt that is most praiseworthy in such a case, from the point of view of the lay reader, especially in the case of a language the units of which are themselves ideas, rather than arbitrary signs. Mr. FREDERIC HENRY BALFOUR published a translation much more literal than Professor PARKER's, but even with his copious explanations interlined, how much less intelligible was it than the one at which Professor GILES has sneered. "The Tao, or Principle of Nature, may be discussed; its name may be named; but it is not an ordinary name", and so on through a mass of practically meaningless jargon.

or words to which different persons would attach different meanings, as they do the writings of, say, ISEN or NIETZSCHE. Mr. BALFOUR certainly had sufficient knowledge of Chinese to entitle him to an opinion, and while he admitted that there were both etymological and philosophical recommendations for the rendering of "tao" as "way, method, or system", he believed it to have some esoteric meaning. His word to the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1880 might have been said in defence of Professor PARKER's way. He spoke of "the fatality attending servile adherence to a literal system of translation than the rendering, hitherto in force, of Reason". The letter, hitherto, he reminded his hearers, and we entertain the opinion that Professor GILES' so-called "simple" reading would be equally fatal.

COOLIES IN YUNNAN.

(Daily Press, 3rd July)

We referred some days ago to the reports of hardship and worse said to be suffered by contract labourers on the Yunnan railway, particularly in the Namti valley. We have since watched for confirmation or refutation; but so far nothing very satisfactory has appeared. Additional letters have appeared, reciting similar charges in the same obviously exaggerated tone; one in particular being almost maudlin, "picturing the helpless despair of these poor, ignorant sufferers, so ruthlessly handed over for a sacrifice", and so on. Equally unsatisfying is the only reply we have observed, in which a correspondent of the *Echo de Chine* seems quite to have overlooked the gravity of the allegations as presented. The general condemnation of the management is "unfortunately not without foundation"; there is nearly always some foundation for the wildest of statements: the tail of the comet always follows a nucleus. The writer in our French contemporary says the accounts of coolie sufferings were greatly exaggerated; we could easily detect as much in the accounts themselves. He says in effect that while wrong things were done in the beginning, they have not been repeated. As we have said, that is not enough, considering that charges of murder and downright swindling have been made against the railway people. So far as we can safely analyse the charges, they amount to these, that no proper accommodation was provided for the coolies; that provisions were inadequate and too dear; that wages were withheld; and that some of the coolies died, while others ran away. Apparently the valley through which the Tongking-Yunnan railway is being carried is too malarious for living in at night; and domiciles on the neighbouring hills are necessary. Mr. CROFTS, the missionary who advanced in plain terms the charges of murder and dishonesty, himself stated that the coolies were permitted to build themselves huts on the surrounding heights, out of materials that existed in plenty. Were they paid for that work? If they were, the railway company may be said to have erected the huts. Who else was to do it: the few foreign overseers or officials? It is not for us to defend the accused; positive statements should be forthcoming on this and similar points from the French authorities. If they choose to ignore such very serious accusations, judgment will naturally go by default; and nothing said of them can be counted too harsh. But in the meantime, we have no moral right to repeat such glibly made allegations without looking into them, for the vraisemblance

and sincerity that they must contain in order to demand attention. This is what we did at the outset, with the result that we were obliged to express dissatisfaction with the evidence. We are scarcely any better off yet. The *Echo de Chine's* contributor is described as one who had taken a part in the business, but who has no connection with the Yunnan company. Such a man would be entitled to be heard, but the most of his reply is in the nature of a flippant philippic. Still, we get from him these serious statements. Two "distinguished French travellers", whose accounts of encounters with numerous coolie corpses were taken as confirming the charges, are said by him to have remained only a few days in Mêngtze, without crossing the Namti valley at all. This, if uncontradicted, disposes of the picture of corpses floating down the Red River, and of three unburied bodies found in a half-hour's stroll. The same witness assures us that if, new to the country, the company at first made a mistake, it had "long ago got rid of its rapacious and inhuman assistants who were responsible for the facts reported", in which, it may be remembered, Italians suffered equally with Chinese. He asserts further that workmen and shopkeepers are voluntarily going to the Namti valley from Foochow, Ningpo, and Canton, residing there, and preferring to be paid on a piecework basis, Hainan, Pakhoi, Longchou, etc., also contributed volunteer recruits, an "average minimum of a hundred workmen every day". If the account of the work done be correct, Mr. CROFTS' wholesale desertions must have been quite imaginary, the deceit, of course, being on the part of his beggar friends. As to the numerous deaths, we pointed out that Mr. CROFTS admitted that many had worked nearly a whole year; and this witness mentions the case of a thousand Foochow men who passed the winter there and returned home in May with less than six per cent. missing. The deserters who begged from Mr. CROFTS had all, he says received their bonus of ten dollars, and decided that was sufficient capital with which to leave for home, without doing a single day's work. We must join issue with him when he says the construction company will bring the undertaking to a successful conclusion, "and that is all that matters". That is very far from being the case; other things matter, and if half the malpractices alleged by the Rev. Mr. CROFTS did actually take place, the very strong intervention of the Chinese Government, supported by others if necessary, should be forthcoming. That no official notice has so far been taken by either side may be regarded as to a certain extent discounting the charges. But now that the charges have taken such a definite and nasty tone, and the old pun revived in connection with the line, "*Chemin de fer c'est chemin de l'enfer*", they cannot with decency be longer ignored.

STATESMEN AND OPIUM.

(Daily Press, 4th July.)

Mr. JOHN MORLEY, Secretary of State for India, delivered what the *Times* calls a "statesmanlike and sympathetic" speech on May 30th, in reply to a motion in the House of Commons, re-affirming the conviction that the India-China opium trade is morally indefensible. If the word "statesmanlike" be passed, it seems to us that it must mean the qualities of latter-day statesmen, rather than of the ideal statesman, SCHOPENHAUER's dictum that a man's intellectual status is in an inverse ratio to

his toleration of noise is no longer accepted: our Chinese friends are a notable exception to the rule, if rule it be; but it may be usefully paraphrased in the case of Mr. MORLEY and many of his colleagues. Thus. The statesmanlike qualities of a publicist are in inverse ratio to his toleration of sentimentalism. The statesmanlike nature of Mr. MORLEY's speech consisted in echoing the exaggerated phrases of the anti-opium legislators, while telling them *non omnia possumus omnes*. We would rather describe it as a thin kind of diplomacy, because while his allusions to "this horrible drug", "this pestilential evil", and so on, evoked cheers, his inevitable demand for some practicable plan of carrying out their philanthropic wishes was met by the grim silence of the extremists. The ideal statesman would surely have thought more of the practical objects of Parliament, and have asked how far such a resolution was likely to further those objects. The things that are strictly legal and yet morally indefensible are too numerous to be ticked off on many fingers. Ordinary trade in very many of its everyday aspects is morally indefensible. Take the local laundry which charges visitors just twice as much as permanent residents, though it runs no risk of losing its accounts. It is strictly within its legal rights, and within the lines of what is fair according to business canons; but the imposition is morally indefensible. War is certainly not to be defended on moral grounds, according to the ethics of our law makers, who regard all human life as sacred. While in this sense nobody would dream of saying that the opium trade is morally unimpeachable, we cannot wholly recognise the statesmanlike qualities of a legislator who could snatch at a little cheap applause with a speech like the one thus reported—"There were few countries whose relations with ourselves we could regard with less pride than our relations with China." What a statesmanlike speech to accompany Sir JOHN JORDAN to Peking! "Your Majesty. Here is the new Minister whose Government is now heartily ashamed of its treatment of China." No, throughout the speech of Mr. MORLEY, we fail to find anything entitling it to the description "statesmanlike". The only possible implication of such a resolution was that if the Government believed something to be morally indefensible it believed it to be unconstitutional and to require immediate reform. When Mr. MORLEY urged his colleagues to cultivate the virtues of patience and circumspection in connection with something that he practically admitted to be evil, he exposed himself to a worse charge than the charge of pusillanimity which he seemed to fear. Pusillanimity was the failing of the man who bowed down in the House of Rimmon; but to talk of the virtue of patience in the presence of an admitted sin is worse. Such an admission should never have been made, since it was never true. Governments cannot be conducted like a Methodist household: what is morally indefensible to the nonconformist conscience may be the only practical politics to a nation. Murder by a private soldier is both morally and legally indefensible; murder wholesale by the army is (from the Parliamentary point of view, at all events) on quite a different footing. The new democratic forces in Parliament include men unable to realise life's limitations; they cannot see that the ethics of a crowd may be different to the ethics of an individual. TOLSTOY, a man dear to their hearts, when advancing perhaps his most nonsensical postulate, said, however hard to do, however fatal its apparent consequences, the

line drawn must be as absolutely straight as was humanly possible. The alternative was a deliberate curve. Nobody despairing of drawing a straight line need deliberately draw a curve; there is the line of least resistance. But the mover and seconder were all for the impracticable straight line. At any cost (to whom not stated) India must stop playing what Dr. RUTHERFORD called "the Devil's game". He believed that for every soul our missionaries sent to Heaven from China, the British Government were sending ten to Hell by this traffic. It was in reply to claptrap of that kind that Mr. MORLEY made his "statesmanlike" speech; that he completely gave away the case, and weakly pleaded that virtue was too costly at three millions sterling of revenue. The obvious fetter is that for a paltry three millions Great Britain is willing to be vicious, a statement that we do not accept, and certainly do not feel grateful for.

CROWN COLONIES AND THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

(Daily Press, 5th July.)

In the *Empire Review* for May, there appeared an article written by Sir CHARLES BRUCE upon a subject which has often been discussed and which will before long have to be dealt with in some effective form, namely, the manner in which the Crown Colonies can be best dealt with by the Colonial Office. The complaint is made, and not without reason, that there is a great deal of ignorance which might easily be avoided about matters not only in Crown Colonies but also in those having responsible Government, and that the COLONIAL SECRETARY is really dependent chiefly upon information and advice given to him by junior clerks in the Office. This is probably an exaggeration of the true state of affairs, as the information in question no doubt takes the form of calling attention to such matters as are on record, which is the ordinary form of procedure, and not peculiar to the Colonial Office. It can hardly be supposed that the juniors undertake to decide points that may arise themselves. But, admitting this, there is still no doubt that there is a want of grasp at headquarters of the bearing of matters connected with the Colonies and it is of great importance to the interests both of the Colonies and of the Empire that this state of things should be remedied. This is especially the case in regard to Crown Colonies, for the due management of which the Imperial Government is directly responsible.

It may be confidently expected that some arrangement will have to be made at home with a view to improving Colonial administration generally, but what form this will take will have to be settled by experience. The first steps will most likely be only of a tentative character and will not bind the Home Government definitely to any hard and fast system until trial has been made as to what is likely to prove most effective. It is very easy to arrange for matters of this description upon paper, but it would be manifestly imprudent to adopt any new scheme in a way which would make it difficult to modify it or to dispense with it altogether should it not prove by practice to work satisfactorily. We make no doubt that the first steps that will be taken will only be as a means of putting matters in such a train that a complete system may be developed in accordance with what proves to be desirable, and that any heroic measures for a complete change in existing arrangements will not commend itself for adoption.

One scheme which was proposed is very justly objected to by Sir CHARLES BRUCE. It was proposed that the governors of Crown Colonies should spend half the year within the walls of the Colonial Office, such governors still remaining the working heads and personally responsible for the administration of their respective Colonies. Upon this, Sir CHARLES pertinently observes: "I am at a loss to understand how the presence of a responsible governor in any intelligible interpretation of the term" within the walls of the Colonial Office "is consistent with the constitutional position of the Secretary of State." He also points out that the duties of a governor involve deciding at once upon many questions that may arise. Such a plan would manifestly be unworkable even upon purely official grounds; but it is also pointed out that "apart from all questions of departmental duties and routine, and far above them, is the personal influence of the governor, which can be gained in no other way than by tact, judgment and sympathy exercised daily and hourly in a spirit of unselfish devotion to the interests of the Colony and of impartial justice to all classes of the community."

The truth of these remarks will be recognised by all who have had experience as residents in any Crown Colony. In practice, however, the matter goes even farther than this. It is often very important for the Colonial Office itself to be fortified by a direct expression of opinion from the responsible governor on the spot. Such a declaration is frequently a complete reply to faddist interference by bodies such as the Aborigines Protection Society, the Anti-Opium Society, the Anti-Chinese labour party, and others of the same class. The definite statement from the governor of the Colony concerned is in such cases a very valuable and legitimate weapon in the hands of the Colonial Office. If, however, the Colonial governors were at home in the manner proposed, instead of at their posts, they would have far less power to hold their own against this kind of interference than they (or even their deputies in their absence) have as the responsible administrators on the spot. In the latter position they become as it were skilled witnesses, and their opinions are accorded the authority that is due to them as such, which would not be the case were they only consulted by the Colonial Office at home.

After dealing with the need for outside institutions being connected with the Colonial Office to supply technical information, the writer recommends that the heads of such departments should receive the status of Assistant Under-Secretaries and should form an Advisory Board in conjunction with other members selected on principles analogous to the Council of India—or the "additional members" to the Council of the Governor General of India. He advocates that it should be an absolute condition that those eligible for the position should have held responsible office in Crown Colonies for a period of not less than ten years. With this last suggestion we imagine few in the Colonies will agree. The condition might well be that the members had been resident in a Crown Colony for at least ten years, but few will consider that it is advisable to restrict the selection to persons who have held "responsible office". This would in fact exclude some of the most valuable people to whom Government could have recourse for advice, among them in this Colony at least gentlemen who have been unofficial members of the Legislative Council, of whom there are always a certain number

at home, whose advice and experience would be precisely that which is most wanted. There are also many who may not have taken any part in public affairs out here who nevertheless would be very valuable as advisers at home; and it would be a pity to exclude them from eligibility to serve upon an advisory body, such as is suggested. As a matter of fact such persons are in one way or another constantly consulted by the Government, when opportunity offers; and there can be no reason, if an officially recognised body of advisers is to be constituted, why they should be excluded in favour exclusively of ex-officials. The institutions which Sir CHARLES BRUCE suggests should be recognised, as above stated, as Departments of the Colonial Office are the Crown Agents, and the agents of Medical, Botanical and Technical Intelligence—the last two being some such institution as the London and Liverpool Schools of Medicine, and the Director of Kew Gardens respectively. The assistance of such persons would of course be of great value, but this would not be by any means all that is required. What is wanted is a scheme which will centre round the Colonial Office all the best information that is available not only upon questions of development and the like, but upon the ordinary current affairs in the different Colonies; and in order to secure this end it would be well that the proposed Advisory Council should be constituted upon a sufficiently broad basis to secure the services of all persons having an intimate knowledge of Colonial matters, even though they do not happen to be presidents of any special institution, or ex-officials.

PAPAL INFLUENCE IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 6th July.)

It has been suggested that the time has come when, as a means of doing away with some of the difficulties which have resulted from the protection of the Catholic Missions in China by France, a Nuncio should be appointed by the Vatican to Peking. This idea was thrown out by a correspondent of the *Times*, whose communication upon the present condition of China has attracted considerable attention at home. It is noticeable that he speaks of the suggestion without reference to the fact that a proposal of this kind was made many years ago by the Chinese authorities but came to nothing. So far back as the time of the HURLINGHAM Mission, that is immediately after China had set about establishing diplomatic relations with Europe, this very course was proposed to the Vatican. The fact is interesting, both as showing the amount of importance which the Chinese attach to the subject, and also illustrating the astuteness with which, at the very outset of their official intercourse with the Courts of Europe, they sought to avail themselves of the opportunities which the establishment of diplomatic relations offered, in order, if possible, to find means of putting an end to a state of affairs to which they most strongly objected. At that time, the relations of France with the Vatican were very different from what they are in the present day. Anxious as it was then, as it has always been, to establish diplomatic relations with foreign countries, the Vatican wisely abstained from any action in a direction which would have had the effect of alienating France, which was at that time regarded as one of the most Catholic countries in Europe. Matters, however, have very much changed in this respect, and it is not surprising that relations

between France and the Vatican being no longer of a friendly but rather of a strained character on account of the secular legislation which has been adopted by the Republic, it should (as it is expressed) be considered that "the psychological moment has come when the Vatican should place itself in direct relations with the Chinese Government, should forbid indiscriminate interference in lawsuits, and should exercise disciplinary control over its missionaries; and that "the present position is unsatisfactory and anomalous and does injury to France and other Catholic powers and to the good name of the Church, while it leads to constant trouble, much of which might be avoided by the appointment of a Legate or Nuncio to Peking".

The *Spectator*, in referring to the suggestion thus thrown out, says: "We have no doubt that this is excellent advice. The missionaries pay very little attention to any remonstrances addressed to them by the Provincial Governors; but they would be obliged to listen to the Pope's immediate representative"—a view which is a natural one to adopt, in dealing with the question upon broad general grounds; but which is scarcely warranted by the actual facts that have to be dealt with. As respects the undesirability of any special protection being afforded to Catholic Missions either by France or any other foreign nation, most people will be agreed. As was pointed out in these columns some time back when the question was mooted whether Germany might undertake the protection of Christian Missions in China (a course which that nation wisely deemed one which it should not adopt), it would be to the benefit of the Catholic cause in China that anything in the form of special protection should be relinquished and that Catholic missionaries should be placed in the same position as others, that is, they should have the same and no other protection than that which is afforded by treaty to the subjects of each foreign nation. This is the only true position to adopt. Any special protection becomes a temptation to missionaries to assert an undue independence of the local and provincial authorities and evokes special opposition on their part. It is open to grave question whether this state of things would be in any way improved by the appointment of a Nuncio to Peking. If such an official had sufficient influence with the high authorities at the capital to induce them to endeavour to afford special protection to Catholic Missions, it is almost certain that the provincial authorities would be quite as much irritated by commands in this direction from the central authorities as they have been by the special protection thrown over the Catholic Missions by France, especially as they would well know from what source the orders in any given case really emanated. Matters would thus be changed in form, but not in substance. That his Holiness the Pope is likely to be anxious to do all that is in his power to restrain ill-advised zeal on the part of missionaries of his Church may be taken for granted—but he can do this whether there is a Nuncio at Peking or not.

What is to be desired is not that a Nuncio be appointed to Peking, but that France should withdraw definitely from her position of Protector of Missions; and there is reason to conclude that it would probably not be a very difficult matter to induce her to abandon a position which, as matters now stand in China, is not likely to be of any advantage to her politically, and has been a constant source of friction and trouble, for which she has obtained no adequate return. If therefore, any action is to be

taken in this matter, it would be well that it should be in the direction indicated. We do not wish to enter into a discussion as to the jealousies which would naturally be evoked on the part of missionaries themselves by any special protection being given from Peking to those of one denomination; but this is a point which would undoubtedly arise were the suggestion as now made of the appointment of a Papal Nuncio at Peking taken into serious consideration. Such a step could not be adopted without consultation with the representatives of the Powers, and, if once the subject had to be discussed with them, the difficulties which have arisen at home with regard to the Education Bill would sink into insignificance in comparison with those which would arise upon this very thorny and delicate matter.

THE FAR EAST AND THE PANAMA CANAL.

(Daily Press, 7th July.)

It can hardly be said that the position taken up by the Senate in the United States with regard to the Panama Canal has been persistently marked by either patriotism or commonsense. Its last decision to uphold the building of the Canal with great locks in preference to a level waterway from ocean to ocean, opposed as it is to the evidence of the majority of the experts to whom the affair was referred by the Government, is tinged with neither. The Senate's attitude with regard to this important question, of deep interest as it is to the sea-borne trade of China, may perhaps be best described as skittish. Of course the *raison d'être* of the Senate is to act as a check against both President and Chamber; and if this were its only business, and the wider interests of the country at large were matters of a merely secondary importance, it has fulfilled this purpose most effectually. Palpably it is not for us to rail at the internal economy of affairs in the States; to the country itself the account must be rendered; but as in this little affair of the Canal our sea-borne commerce will eventually be deeply interested, we may be allowed a little space on the great commercial platform of the world to utter a few words.

It is quite true that in this enormous engineering undertaking, the greatest that the world has yet seen, we have to provide none of the preliminary capital; that is kindly undertaken by the Great Republic. But this being the case, it is equally true that a very considerable part of the revenue will, as a matter of fact, be provided by the China trade. Some folk are indeed sanguine enough to believe that the China trade will be the biggest factor in the income. We have lived to see the wonderful effect on the commerce of the world brought about by the opening of the Suez Canal, which, it is no exaggeration to say, has profoundly modified Eastern Asia. The conditions point to the opening of the Panama Canal having, if possible, a yet more profound effect. The coign of vantage hitherto occupied by the western coast of Europe will then be shifted to the Atlantic and Gulf ports of the United States, and Charleston, Mobile, New Orleans, and Galveston, names up to this scarcely whispered in China, will gradually creep into prominence. New possibilities will bring forth new industries, and he would be a sage prophet who could foretell a tithe of the eventual possibilities. Now while the trade of China is gradually preparing itself for such another revolution as that that followed the opening of the Egyptian "Ditch", it can scarcely be alleged that anxiety for the permanency of

the new Canal is out of place, or that we are overstepping the limits of reasonable criticism in alluding to it.

In many respects there is a marked difference in the conditions under which the two works will be undertaken. Practically the Suez Canal lay through ground so level, and soil so easily removeable, that the engineering problems to be faced were removed to a minimum, and scarcely extended beyond the cheapest and most expeditious manner of removing the sand, of which the great desert of Sinai was known to be composed. Climate was a negligible quantity, and the district was practically outside the limits of natural convulsions of any sort. In every one of these particulars the Isthmus of Panama is exactly the reverse. Mountains of several hundred feet in height have to be pierced, and the rock is hard crystalline slates and quartzites. At Suez but a few inches of rain fall in ordinary years, and floods are a thing unknown. The Isthmus of Panama is one of the rainiest spots in Central America and the place is notorious for sudden tropical downpours which carry destruction in their train: and the floods of the Chagres River form one of the most difficult of engineering problems in the world. The material to be excavated is throughout the hardest of rock, and, as if to accentuate the difficulties of the task, the tropical climate is one of the worst on earth and fevers are both severe and dangerous: so much so that in building the railway which occupies practically the site of the Canal, it was estimated that every sleeper cost a life. These are some of the special difficulties which have doubtless induced the Senate to come to its decision to save life and expense as far as possible in the construction of the new waterway of the world.

But long though the category of difficulties detailed above is, it does not state the greatest difficulty of all, and that is the liability of the land to destructive earthquakes. The whole of the mountain chain of the Rockies is liable to earth-shakings, and some of the most destructive on record have occurred during the four centuries in which alone it has been known to science. So common are earth movements that the miner in the mountains west of San Francisco firmly believes that the earth is alive, and that the whole range is bodily sinking. This line of perpetual tremours is continued through Central America to the Cordillera, and it may be said that in the neighbouring province of Ecuador is their most marked focus. But the other day we alluded to the series of earthquakes consequent on the disturbance at Esmeralda on the 31st January last, and which culminated in the disaster at San Francisco. Earth movements as a matter of fact are a normal feature in these Central American States, and no permanent work can be undertaken without taking this fact into account. According to the lock project it is proposed to impound an enormous body of water in a level reach some 75 feet over sea level, and to confine this at both ends between the largest locks the world has as yet seen. This work has to be undertaken in no spirit of boasting, but because the size of ships has been annually increasing at a ratio which as yet exhibits no symptoms of ending. It is easy to imagine what the results of the disturbance due to even an ordinary earthquake would be; such a disaster as that at Esmeralda or San Francisco would entail not only the complete destruction of the Canal but of thousands of lives, and millions, perhaps hundred of millions, of property. One of

these earth-shakings occurred within less than three hundred miles; both happened on the same line of weakness with which Panama is situated, and both within the last six months; the prospects of earth-quakings are thus by no means remote; and a severe shake would certainly in the case of an elevated canal take years to repair, even if it did not eventuate in blocking the passage for all time. No such result could, of course, possibly happen in the case of a canal on the sea level, as the water would not have the additional force of gravity behind it. We can imagine the loss that would be entailed on the commerce of the world by the stoppage for a few weeks of the Suez Canal, but this is nothing in comparison with the untold and untellable loss which would follow the bursting of the other. This is our reason for attempting to interfere in a matter in which it is true we have no immediate concern, but which all the more affects our future prospects.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

July 2nd.

Has it ever occurred to you when you experience a certain irritation in various parts of your body, that the European is not the only one who suffers from prickly heat? Even the native knows something of its discomforts. Many readers will doubtless be surprised to learn, that many Chinese, particularly those engaged in occupations other than hard manual labour, experience this visitation in the summer. It seems remarkable that the people habituated to this climate should be attacked by the prickly heat. One would naturally have thought they would have been immune from such an unpleasant sensation, and it would be interesting to learn if the medical men can supply any explanation.

The travellers by the Star Company's ferry boats who declared that something would happen at the new landing stage on the Kowloon side must be as happy as the man in the position to say "I told you so." The approach was more difficult and more dangerous than the old one, and though nothing alarming has taken place, the company have seen the necessity of putting down guiding piles, a work which should result in the landing being accomplished with a greater degree of safety, though it is too much to hope that the bump, to which we have grown accustomed will disappear, or even be lessened.

Recently reference was made in this column to the expediency of introducing the female element into our domestic service. Europeans who care to make the innovation can have the assurance of a Chinese gentleman in this Colony that the experiment works exceedingly well. In his establishment, on the higher level, he has female servants who discharge all the duties usually expected from boys. A demure little damsel "answers the door", another brings the visitor liquid refreshment, and even the billiard marker is a girl. Dinner is served by females, and all the duties usually undertaken by the "boys" are well carried out by members of the other sex. Apart from the question of the cheapness or otherwise of this form of labour, it has the merit of insuring greater obedience to "lawful orders", while the work seems to be as intelligently executed.

It has long been recognised that the Hongkong Volunteers have not the facilities for rifle practice that may reasonably be expected to be placed at their disposal. The range at Tai Hang, admirably situated with regard to shooting requirements, possesses the great drawback of being comparatively inaccessible, and its use calls for a considerable expenditure of energy in making the climb on a hot summer's afternoon, not to speak of the time occupied in making the journey from the city. The authorities have lately had the subject under consideration, and there is good reason for believing that efforts are being made to secure a site which will be safe in the interests of the public and sufficiently convenient to make it

more attractive to those who wish to practice the art of rifle shooting.

When people complain about high prices in Hongkong, they never reflect that the cause may be due to themselves. We know perfectly well that one has to obtain some little knowledge of Chinese methods before one can buy with advantage, and it seems to me that a similar argument will apply to the patrons of rickshas and chairs. At the conclusion of the ride the ordinary individual feels very much at the mercy of the coolie. He is not very sure of the table of payments laid down and published, and rather than risk a scene, in which he finds it impossible to make any resort to the abuse and vituperation which he knows the man is hurling at him, he pays what he thinks is more than a reasonable sum. Sometimes the coolie will take it with a grunt, but as often as not he demands "cumshaw", probably thinking he has found a griffin.

Visitors who come here may not unnaturally desire to have no trouble over an extra five or ten cents, but residents, as a protection for themselves and those who succeed them, should make themselves acquainted with the legal fare and pay neither more nor less. In special circumstances where the coolie has been obliging, then the cumshaw would not be amiss, but when people pay ten cents for what is only legally a five cent ride they are helping to establish a custom which is bound to react against the members of the community in course of time. At present if one pays a ricksha coolie five cents for covering a distance which has brought him ten cents from more extravagant riders, he may throw the coin into the sea and indulge in other actions expressive of his disgust. Meanwhile the crowd gathers and as the central figure dislikes such publicity he may pay up and look pleasant.

This form of exaction is practised very generally, and while many people would willingly assist the authorities to stop it, the ordinary business man dislikes the loss of time involved by his attendance at the magistracy to prosecute the offender. If it were possible simply to complain to a policeman and have him carry the case through, then all would be well. Certainly greater co-operation on the part of the public is necessary to prevent the growth of a practice which is not in their interest, and the first step is for everyone to become acquainted with the fares and act strictly in accordance with these.

BANYAN

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Minutes of a monthly meeting of the general committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held in the Chamber Room, St. George's Building, on Wednesday, 20th June, 1906, at 3.45 p.m. Present—Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. A. G. Wood, (Vice-Chairman), Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Messrs. A. Haupt, H. E. R. Hunter, D. R. Law, G. H. Medhurst, H. E. Tomkins and A. R. Lowe (secretary).

NEW MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

The Chairman expressed the pleasure the Committee felt at Mr. Gresson being able to rejoin them and at Mr. Hunter's acceptance of office during the absence of Mr. J. R. M. Smith.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th ultimo and of the special meeting held on the 15th ultimo were read and confirmed.

NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The following correspondence was recorded:—Colonial Secretary's Office, 18th May, 1906.

Sir,—I am directed to send you for the information of your Chamber a copy of a letter from the Premier of New Zealand introducing Mr. John Graham Gow, representative of the New Zealand International Exhibition to be held at Christchurch, for such action as your Chamber may consider desirable.—I have, &c., (Sgd.) T. SERCOMBE SMITH, Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.
Enclosure copy.

New Zealand, Wellington,
10th January, 1906.
His Excellency Sir M. Nathan, K.C.M.G.,
Hongkong.

Sir,—I have the honour to present to you Mr. John Graham Gow, who has been appointed Official Representative, for the East, of the New Zealand International Exhibition, which is being held at Christchurch, during the period of November, 1906, and April 1907. Mr. Gow is visiting Hongkong with the object of inducing the Government of that port to take part in the Exhibition by making a representative exhibit of the arts, products, and manufactures of Hongkong. At the same time, Mr. Gow will also interview manufacturers and exporters, generally, with the same object.

I shall be much obliged if your Excellency will grant your kind offices to assist Mr. Gow and to introduce him to the proper authorities to enable him to successfully carry out the work connected with his appointment. Any assistance you may be able to render him will be very much appreciated.—I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) J. G. WARD,
p. Premier.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.
23rd May, 1906.

Sir,—I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 18th instant with enclosure regarding the proposed New Zealand International Exhibition to be held at Christchurch between November, 1906, and April, 1907.

My committee are of opinion that there is barely sufficient time in which to make arrangements for sending under Government supervision an adequate assortment of goods which would thoroughly represent the trade of the Colony at this Exhibition, but they consider it advisable that the Registrar-General should explain to the Chinese guilds and merchants the advantages to be derived from being properly represented thereat.

Up to the present there is no direct trade between the two Colonies from this end, but as there are a number of Chinese residents in New Zealand, doubtless a stimulus would be given to this Colony's exports such as bamboo, basketry, pewter, brass, foodstuffs, ivories, lacquer, oil, silk and silver articles, if the Chinese interested in these productions can be induced to send exhibits to form a small court.

I am to state that a circular is being issued to members of this Chamber directing attention to the fact of the representative of the New Zealand Exhibition being now in the Colony, and his willingness to enter into negotiations with intending exhibitors. I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

Hon. T. Sercombe Smith,
Colonial Secretary.

BILL OF EXCHANGE STAMPS.

The following correspondence took place:—Colonial Secretary's Office, 1st May, 1906.

Sir,—I am directed to state that a proposal has emanated from the Colonial Treasurer that Bills of Exchange from \$10 to \$250 should in the future be stamped with an embossed stamp on the original of a set and with an impressed stamp on the duplicate as in the case of cheques, and to invite an expression of opinion from your Chamber on the proposal.—I have, &c.,

(Sgd.) T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
15th May, 1906.

Sir,—I am instructed to inform you that your letter of the 1st instant inviting an expression of opinion on the proposal of the Colonial Treasurer to substitute an embossed stamp of 5 cents on the original and an impressed stamp of 5 cents on the duplicate of Bills of Exchange from \$10 to \$250 instead of 3 and 2 cents respectively have been considered by my committee and they see no reason why the alteration should not be made.—I have, &c., (Sgd.) A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

Hon. T. Sercombe Smith,
Colonial Secretary.

METRIC SYSTEM OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

A letter was read from the Decimal Association expressing thanks for the Chamber's donation to the Parliamentary Campaign Fund, and gratification that the Hongkong delegates at the forthcoming Congress of Chambers of Commerce would support the resolution favouring the adoption of a metric system of weights and measures throughout the Empire.

SIXTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The following letters were read:—

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
2nd June, 1906.

Sir Thomas Jackson, Bart.,
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking
Corporation, London.

Dear Sir,—With further reference to my letter of 7th April last inviting your attendance at the 6th Congress of Chamber of Commerce of the Empire I regret to inform you that the Committee have no further information of the actual resolutions to be brought before the Congress. Doubtless they are on the way and when received a cable will be sent you through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank should the Committee deem it necessary to record their vote in any particular resolution.

Before leaving Hongkong Mr. Gershom Stewart had an interview with the committee and knows the attitude they take up on some of the questions likely to be raised. Mr. Dickson only left on Wednesday last via Canada and will not arrive in time to attend the Conference, but your committee of four will without doubt cable me if there are any points on which they think my committee should decide for themselves.

I enclose a copy of the Chamber's 1905 Report just issued.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.) A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce,
15th June, 1905.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of 17th May, now in circulation amongst my committee, stating that the preliminary programme being already in my hands my committee would doubtless communicate their views to the Hongkong delegates by wire. Nothing has come to hand since your circular invitation was received so I conclude it has miscarried and unless Singapore or Shanghai can favour me with one of theirs I am afraid it will be too late to instruct the Hongkong delegates unless they cable for instructions on any particular point.—Yours faithfully.

(Sgd.) A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.

Kenric B. Murray, Esq., Secretary.
Congress of Chambers of Commerce, London,
E.C.

The Secretary reported that Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox had written to accept the invitation to act as one of the Hongkong delegates and that letters have been despatched to the Shanghai and Singapore Chamber asking for the loan of copies of the Conference programme.

REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS.

The Chairman said that at the Legislative Council meeting on 17th May, last, he had expressed the views of the committee of the Chamber that the motion brought forward by Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., should be withdrawn pending the introduction of a Bill showing the scope of the resolution. Mr. Pollock had accepted that view and it was understood a draft Bill would in due course be introduced, and H.E. the Governor had promised the Chamber of Commerce should then have an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the subject.

CURRENCY QUESTION.

Correspondence with the Star Ferry Company, Limited, and the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce was read and approved.

LATE DELIVERY OF MANCHESTER GOODS.

The following letter with enclosure was read:—

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce,
Liverpool, April, 9th, 1906.

LATE DELIVERY OF GOODS IN CHINA.

Dear Sir,—I enclose extract from a letter received at this Chamber from a member, on the above-named subject.

I should be glad if you would kindly let me know the views of your Chamber with regard

to the proposal referred to by my correspondent.—I am, &c.,

(Sgd.) THOMAS W. HARKNEY,
Secretary.

The Secretary,
Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

EXTRACT.

China: Late delivery of goods by manufacturers.

"At the present time the law here does not admit of any compensation for goods late against contract, but we understand that some merchants in Manchester are taking this matter up, as under present conditions the temptation is open to unscrupulous manufacturers and others to delay goods in order to sell to advantage to others on a rising market. We are informed that it is proposed that one month's grace should be allowed, but if over one month a penalty of 5 per cent. ad valorem should be exacted. We think if the Hongkong, Manchester, Liverpool and Bradford Chambers would come to some decision on this point, it might be possible to institute the clause we have mentioned.

"We shall be glad of your opinion on this subject."

The Secretary reported that a circular letter had been issued embodying the above to the piece goods firms, and several replies had been received in favour of the proposal but intimating that it hardly went far enough.

It was decided to form a sub-committee composed of representatives of some of the firms mostly interested to see whether some workable solution could not be arrived at.

This concluded the business before the meeting.

A COURT EPISODE.

CLOTHES MAKE THE LAWYER.

During the hearing of a case in the Supreme Court on July 2 there was an amusing incident which considerably enlivened the proceedings. Mr. Grist had made his opening statement for the plaintiff and had sat down, while Mr. Hursthouse offered some remarks on behalf of the defendant. Suddenly, the Puisne Judge, who had been looking keenly at Mr. Grist, interrupted Mr. Hursthouse and addressing Mr. Grist informed him that he could not recognise him. Everybody knew that something was wrong. It could not be that his Honour's eyesight was failing! No, the fault, whatever it was, lay with Mr. Grist, as a glance at his face showed. He stammered out some remark, and left his seat, Mr. Hursthouse saying, "I'm sorry I can't lend you one". Then it appeared that Mr. Grist had been guilty of a breach of court etiquette. He was wearing a grey jacket under his robe instead of the regulation black one. Whether he borrowed the necessary sartorial effect from a legal friend in the vicinity, it would be difficult to say, but the business of the Court was suspended for only a few minutes—during which time there was a smile on most faces—and then he returned properly attired in a black jacket, and the hearing was continued.

CRACKERS AND LEGAL ARGUMENT.

BARBARIC LOVE OF NOISE.

The firing of crackers at the foot of Wyndham Street on the 4th July was responsible for cutting short a legal discussion in the Supreme Court. The Chief Justice had referred to the incidents which recently called from him very severe strictures in the now famous Wong Ka-chueng litigation, and Counsel was replying when a deafening fusillade from outside made the discussion something like a dumb show. Parties waited for a while in the hope that the firing would not be prolonged, but as the noise did not cease, their Lordships rose and the discussion was left at a stage which must have been unsatisfactory to all concerned.

One hundred deportees from Saigon, who arrived here by the s.s. *Dervent* on July 4, were marched to the Central Police Station, where they will be guarded until they can be forwarded to their homes in China.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, June 29th.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED MURDER.

Tsang Ming was charged with the murder of a coolie named Ng Yuen on board the s.s. *Indravelli* on the 18th instant.

Sir H. S. Berkeley, Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. G. E. Morrell (of the Crown Solicitor's office), prosecuted, and Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Goldring and Barlow), appeared for the defendant.

The Attorney-General said it seemed that the prisoner and the man he was alleged to have murdered were among a lot of coolies returning from South Africa by the *Indravelli*. On the 18th instant, at about one o'clock in the morning, whilst the ship was between Singapore and Hongkong, a noise was heard which awoke the passengers. Cries of "save life" were heard, and several coolies rushed in the direction from whence they came. On arriving on the starboard side of the vessel about amidships they found deceased lying down and prisoner standing by his side. Prisoner said that deceased was drunk, and tried to cover him up with a blanket, at the same time endeavouring to push away the crowd. One of these men, who was rather more curious than the rest, got a candle and had a look round. He saw some blood which rather frightened him, and he went and informed. As a result of this, amongst those who appeared on the scene was Mr. Whiting, who was in charge of the coolies. He saw that the man lying down had two stab wounds in the heart. The prisoner was taken in custody, and next morning a sort of inquiry was held, when the prisoner admitted that he stabbed the deceased. He said he did so as the result of a quarrel, but not until the deceased had struck him and threatened him with a knife. A curious feature about the affair was the disappearance of one of the coolies who was on board the ship on the morning previous to the murder, when search was made after the inquiry he was not to be found. The Attorney-General emphasised the fact that prisoner tried to conceal the body, and said it would be for the jury to say whether, after hearing the evidence, the charge should be reduced to manslaughter.

When evidence concluded, counsel addressed the Court and his Lordship summed up, the jury retired to consider the facts. Shortly afterwards they returned and found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter. The crime was committed under great provocation, and they strongly recommended him to mercy.

His Lordship said he could not disregard the jury's recommendation, but at the same time he was bound to exercise his own discretion in regard to the reduction of the punishment which was to be imposed upon the prisoner. He therefore sentenced him to seven years' imprisonment with hard labour.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

A DISPUTED CONSIDERATION.

The case in which Chan Tack sued Chiu Yeung-leong to recover the sum of \$2,000, balance of purchase money in respect of the sale of certain property, was concluded.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. Hastings (of Mr. John Hastings' office), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, for the defendant.

After hearing the evidence, his Lordship, gave judgment for the defendant and costs.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

The case was concluded in which Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. sued the Fuk Lee firm and

Fok Kam-chuan, a partner therein, to recover the sum of \$303.20 damages suffered by reason of a breach by the defendants of a contract in writing dated 19th December, 1905, whereby the defendants agreed to purchase 1,000 boxes of window glass, and have refused to take delivery of 160 boxes thereof.

Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Denny and Bowley) for the defendants.

In delivering his decision his Lordship said it was admitted that the cases containing this window glass were damaged by fresh water, also the straw packing, and on that ground the defendants refused to accept 160 cases, the real reason being that the glass was not merchantable. A survey of the contents of these cases showed that they were perfectly sound. The defendants refused to accept delivery of these packages because the outside looked damaged. His Lordship could not think that applied to everything, because it was admitted that the glass was perfectly sound. The contract was that the plaintiffs should deliver so much glass in Hongkong in fair condition. They had done so, and he did not see that the cases and straw packing were for anything better than to protect the glass and land it here in a merchantable condition, which was done; therefore the defendants had no right to refuse delivery. The second question was as to damage. Correspondence passed between the parties, and up to May 2nd the defendants said they would take delivery if plaintiffs would re-pack the glass. The next point he had to decide was whether there was any undue delay in selling the goods. They realised \$3.90 per box, the market price then being \$5.41. The defendants' manager, in his evidence, stated that he would take 70 cent. per case to re-pack. That was his estimate, but not his Lordship's. The market price on the day of the auction was said to be \$5.40; the goods were sold for \$3.90 plus 70 cents for packing, \$4.60, so that a handsome price was realised. It would be a very curious thing if it could be found out at whose instance the glass was bought. His Lordship had his own opinion about it. Under the circumstances he thought the auction price must be taken as the market price. There would be judgment for the plaintiffs less 2 per cent. commission, and less survey fees.

A TIRED DIVER.

E. F. Gibson claimed from T. S. Morton the sum of \$1,000 for breach of contract.

Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), who appeared for the plaintiff, put in an affidavit of service outside the jurisdiction by the Consul at Tientsin.

The plaintiff said that about January, 1903, he entered into an agreement with the defendant with reference to the removal of the wreck of the *Pak Shan*. He paid the defendant \$1,000 for the job, and produced the written agreement. Defendant started the work in June, but ran away, leaving it unfinished.

His Lordship—What did he run away for?

Plaintiff—I think he was lazy. On looking over the work I found he had done nothing at all.

Mr. Grist—He was a diver?

Plaintiff—Supposed to be a diver.

Mr. Grist—And you had to start diving yourself?

Plaintiff—Yes, and to remove the wreck. I suffered more than \$1,000 damages.

His Lordship—Do you think you will be able to get it?

Plaintiff—I don't know, but I can try.

His Lordship—All right. Judgment and costs.

AN INTERPRETER WANTED.

The case in which Lau Tak-shan sued Leung Tai-hung for the recovery of \$962.31 was called on.

Mr. Hett (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant appeared in custody.

The defendant, one of the returned coolies by the *Indravelli*, was from the North. The interpreter tried to make himself understood in several dialects, including the Mandarin, but the defendant shook his head and gave the Court to understand that he had no knowledge of what was being said.

His Lordship—How do they understand him in gaol when he complains so much?

When further efforts to make the defendant understand proved futile, his Lordship told Mr. Hett he would have to provide an interpreter, and adjourned the case till Monday.

FEMININE EXTRAVAGANCE.

The Sam Lee Company sued Sam Nai to recover the sum of \$54.25 due for goods sold.

His Lordship (to defendant)—Why don't you pay?—I have paid.

Where's your receipt?—I was informed that no receipt was necessary, so didn't take one.

Did you have all these goods?—Yes.

His Lordship—Well, you've got to prove you paid; the onus is on you.—The plaintiff said to me—"You cannot read, what do you want a receipt for?" I bought goods to the value of \$26.

His Lordship?—But they are claiming \$54.25?—Well, they have added some more to the bill, my Lord.

Is your master in Court?—He has gone to Shanghai.

What does he allow you for clothing?—He allows me \$80 a month.

What do you do with it?—Pay my house rent and household expenses.

Who is your master? Is he a Chinaman?—Yes.

Well, he won't have much money now; no wonder he's gone to Shanghai. You've had all these things?—Yes.

And you've started on a \$50 contract out of your \$80 a month. How are you going to do it?—Of course I am ignorant. I don't know.

His Lordship—That is just the trouble. I want to help you if I can, but I don't see my way. Judgment and costs for the plaintiff. You had better write and tell your master.

Monday, July 2nd.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

PARTNERS IN DISPUTE.

Cheong Ping-wai sued Ito Kwok-pan for \$237.17. Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Hursthouse (of the Crown Solicitor's office) appeared for defendant.

Mr. Grist said this was a claim for a balance of account settlement. He had made a demand for payment and received a reply that the amount had been paid on 25th July, 1905. There had been an admission at one time that the money was due, so that it was for the defendant to prove the alleged payment.

The Puisse Judge—Yes, the onus of proof of the payment rests on the defendant.

Mr. Hursthouse stated that formerly the plaintiff and the defendant were partners and had several transactions together. Receipts were not given, but the book was chopped as the money was handed over. As a matter of fact the money was paid in the presence of witnesses.

Evidence was given for the defendant, and judgment was given for plaintiff with costs.

Tuesday, July 3rd.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

The Shan Shui Po Land Investment Company, for whom Mr. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon) appeared, sued Wong Kwai for \$922.20, arrears of rent from July 1st, 1906, to May 31st, 1906, at the rate of \$40 per month.

His Lordship—I understand the point has been raised that the Summary Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court have no power to try such an action, as Ordinance 3 of 1905 (section 10) provides that, except by way of appeal against the decision of the Land Court, no proceedings relating to land in the New Territory can be commenced in the Summary Court.

Mr. Deacon argued that Ordinance 10 of 1903 was conclusive on the point. There was nothing in the 1905 Ordinance which repealed in any way the provisions of the 1903 Ordinance, and that Ordinance expressly dealt with the recovery of rent for land in the New Territory.

His Lordship—I have not looked at that. In the cases I have looked up two of the Judges hold that rent does relate to land, the other three hold that rent does not, and it is my opinion that relating to land means, relating to the title deeds, not relating to rent, and I hold that you can bring the action in the Summary Court. I have three Judges for me and two against, and that is enough for me.

Defendant did not enter an appearance, and judgment was given for plaintiffs with costs.

Mr. Deacon remarked that defendant had been so long in occupation without paying rent before plaintiffs proved their title that he objected to pay now that plaintiffs were in a position to demand it.

A second case was called and similarly decided.

Wednesday, July 4th.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

AN UNSUCCESSFUL APPEAL.

Judgment was given in the action making application for a re-trial of the issue between the Official Receiver and Wong Ka-chenng, to decide whether the latter was or was not a partner in the Lai Hing firm, which had become bankrupt.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton (of Messrs Brutton and Hett), appeared for the appellants, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, appeared for the respondents.

The Puisse Judge said the motion to set aside the decision of the jury and to erect a new trial was founded on three grounds (1) misdirection, (2) verdict against the weight of evidence, (3) fresh evidence. The Court refused to admit any fresh evidence, and the Court also refused to admit the newspaper notes as evidence. In reviewing the facts, he said there were two points to which exception might be taken—the Chief Justice's wrong expression that Wong Tai-ho was unworthy of credit, and his remarks with regard to the expert in writing; but he held that no grounds had been shown for a new trial on the ground of misdirection. In conclusion, he stated that it seemed to him the case had been very clearly put before the jury. The motion should not in his opinion have been brought before the Court, and the appeal should be dismissed with costs.

The Chief Justice's deliverance was a lengthy one, occupying more than an hour. At the outset he pointed out that the fresh evidence could not be admitted, and referred to the subject of shorthand notes, stating that these could not be admitted to supplement or contradict the Judge's notes. He demurred to the doctrine enunciated by Counsel that he should not pass any opinion on the character of the evidence tendered by any witness, and while admitting that there were certain defects in his summing up to the jury they were not sufficient to warrant a re-trial on the ground of misdirection. In replying to the arguments of Counsel, he made several strong statements. On one occasion he said "a more astounding case of misquotation (by Counsel) I never came across", and later he described a remark of Mr. Sharp's as showing "an unnecessary exuberance of language". In conclusion, he said—I am of opinion that, on the grounds set forth, the motion for a new trial should be refused with costs. I have further to say with regard to the question to which we alluded, the compilation of the file by the addition of the two versions of the summing up, we propose to disallow the costs incidental to procuring this summing up as between solicitor and client. The amount will be small—perhaps it will not be felt. It will at least mark our disapproval of what was done.

Mr. Slade asked to be released from the undertaking as to costs.

Mr. Pollock said there were certain points in the Chief Justice's judgment as to the interpretation of their arguments to which he would like to refer. He understood it was the intention of the appellants to carry this further, and that was why he would like to take the opportunity of referring to those points. His

Lordship had remarked that the learned Counsel for appellants had argued that his Lordship had no right to express an opinion to the jury. He should not like that to go forward to a higher court as an expression of their opinion.

The Chief Justice said he took the actual words.

Mr. Pollock replied that they certainly never contended that.

The Chief Justice read his note.

Mr. Pollock disclaimed the note as representing what he had argued. What he said was that his Lordship could not express himself in such a way as to substitute his own opinion for that of the jury.

Mr. Sharp agreed.

The Chief Justice altered his note on that point, as well as another as to the question of the jury taking the whole of the evidence.

Mr. Pollock then referred to the appellants' undertaking to pay the costs of that appeal, and said it was the intention of appellants to carry the case further. In view of the possibility of another decision being given, he would submit that that undertaking should be extended.

After some discussion, the Chief Justice consented to the time being extended for a fortnight.

The Chief Justice—Now comes the question whether the Official Receiver will be justified in incurring further expenses unless a meeting of creditors is called and the majority consent.

Mr. Pollock—Perhaps your Lordship will allow me to make a statement with regard to the disallowance of these costs.

The Chief Justice—The last time that I mentioned the fact Counsel said the matter would be explained by the solicitor referring to his diary. I certainly expected, when the Court assembled, that some reference would be made to it, but the matter has been completely ignored.

Mr. Pollock—Surely we have a right to address the Court?

His Lordship's reply was inaudible.

Mr. Pollock—I think your Lordship will remember we were told your Lordship had made certain alterations in your summing up, and that we were to put in these alterations.

The Puisne Judge—I told you I was surprised to find three copies of the same thing on my file.

Mr. Pollock—Perhaps your Lordship will remember certain directions given to Mr. Suffad.

The Chief Justice—Those directions had nothing to do with this case. I cannot conceive how anybody should act as the appellants have in putting on the file these different documents.

Mr. Pollock—There was a certain direction which must have been misunderstood.

The Chief Justice—The official copy of the summing up is the copy on the file. Instead of which, when the file comes before me, I find a literal transcript of the copy by the shorthand writer and then an affidavit setting up that he took it down correctly. It is preposterous.

Mr. Pollock—Surely we were not to have two files—in this case and the perjury case? I understand Mr. Suffad was authorised by your Lordship—

The Chief Justice—Yes, in order to facilitate. Even then, that does not excuse the affidavit of the shorthand writer.

Mr. Pollock—Surely any party is at liberty to put in an affidavit?

The Chief Justice—An affidavit by an officer of the Court can only be put in with the permission of the Court.

Mr. Pollock—Surely an officer of the Court is at liberty to make an affidavit?

The Chief Justice—Not without the consent of the Court.

Mr. Pollock—Supposing there was an action against the judge?

The Chief Justice—It is a private document.

Mr. Pollock—It is the property of the public. What your Lordship delivered in public is the property of the public. Everybody has the right to file an affidavit. Supposing a solicitor's clerk were to take a shorthand note, he could file an affidavit and say that that is what your Lordship said.

The Chief Justice—The practice of the Court has been laid down for nearly three months. The official copy of the summing up is the print as it leaves my hands. Instead of which the official copy is deliberately omitted from the file.

Mr. Pollock—I don't think your Lordship has the right to say deliberately.

The Chief Justice—It could not be by mistake.

Mr. Pollock—Is it not official when it is in print?

The Chief Justice—No; when it is approved.

At this moment a continued outburst of crackers outside the Court building put a stop to all further discussion and their Lordships rose.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

THE IMMUNITY OF A WARSHIP.

The owners of the junk *Tung On Tai* and the owners of the cargo laden thereon sued Arthur E. Gove, of the U.S.S. *Alexander*, for \$20,000 damages for collision. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master), appeared for plaintiffs.

The Attorney-General, who was instructed by Mr. Bowley, from the Crown Solicitor's office, said he appeared on a special motion asking the Court to dismiss the action for want of jurisdiction to entertain it. He appeared on behalf of the Government of this Colony, on behalf of the King, and represented the Government of the United States of America, also Captain Gove under protest. That case was one of *in personam*, against Captain Gove of the U.S.S. *Alexander*, claiming from him personal damages for the loss alleged to have been sustained by the collision alleged to have occurred between the *Alexander* and the plaintiffs' junk in the waters of the harbour. The first count ration for his Lordship was, the *Alexander* was a public armed vessel, the property of a friendly nation, the United States of America. This ship at the time the collision was said to have occurred was in the waters of the Colony on the implied invitation of the sovereign of the British Empire. That implied invitation carried with it the undertaking that a public armed ship of the United States was free from the jurisdiction of that Court so long as she demeaned herself in a friendly way within the jurisdiction. He took it that it would not be denied by his learned friend that as such a public armed ship was free from all suits in the Colony. It was necessary to establish that proposition because he wished to argue that the exemption afforded to the ship covered her as a unit, as an entity, covered her not merely as so much steel, but covered her in her capacity as a public armed ship. One of the reasons for the immunity of a public armed ship, part of the military and naval force of a friendly nation, was so as not to interfere with her efficiency. As far as the hull went it was immune from arrest, and his learned friend, being well aware of that, did not go to the Court for a warrant for the ship's arrest. The assumption was that the United States was willing to do justice to foreigners as well as to her own subjects and the remedy for any person who suffered by collision with one of her ships was through the proper diplomatic channels. The immunity of a public armed ship was not confined to her hull only, it extended to her machinery, her guns (which were not a part of the ship) and to her captain and crew. Take the captain and crew out of the ship and she was reduced to the character of U.S. property, but she was no longer an armed ship, part of the military and naval force, which that power had sent into Asiatic waters. Take the guns out of her and the same remark applies, though, the *Alexander*, being a collier, she would be less efficient without her crew than without her guns. Taking her crew out of her would render her inefficient to perform the services required of her. How could they contend that that which would render her still less efficient could be taken from her, could be made liable to this jurisdiction? We had in this Colony a law, which was repealed in England in 1861, which allows imprisonment for debt of the person of the debtor. A judgment against the captain renders him liable to be imprisoned if he could not find the money; the plaintiffs had the right to imprison the debtor.

The Chief Justice—Your proposition is not confined to Hongkong?

The Attorney-General—Obviously not. Proceeding, he said, the general principle was that they must do nothing to interfere with the efficiency of the ship or the purpose for which she was sent to those waters by a foreign sovereign. Captain Gove had come here from Shanghai out of respect to the jurisdiction of this Court and the ship had gone to sea without a captain. That was a serious interference with the domestic economy of the ship—an interference with her efficiency. His Lordship had before him an affidavit from the officer in command of the Station to the effect that he had received telegraphic orders that Captain Gove was to rejoin his ship as soon as he could get away. The captain of the *Alexander* could not be sued as if he were the captain of an American merchant ship.

The Chief Justice—Does the question of extra-territoriality come into it? Actions may be brought against foreign governments.

The Attorney-General—If they submit.

Mr. Slade argued that a foreign man-of-war was in the same position as a British man-of-war. Supposing a ship of war engaged on important State duty ran down any vessel, if the officer in charge of her set foot on shore he might be served with a writ and become immediately subject to the jurisdiction of that Court. It was suggested in that case that Captain Gove was acting in the course of his duty as captain of the vessel that ran down the junk. Their allegation was that he was not acting properly in command, that he was not doing his duty as a servant of his State. They alleged that he had been guilty of neglect. If they admitted there was neglect the plaintiffs had no case. They said the Captain was not doing his duty as he ought to have done. Therefore the commands of his sovereign could not avail him. His orders were to proceed with all due and proper care from the side of the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, then anchored at Kowloon Bay. He in fact disobeyed those orders, and by his negligence injures the plaintiffs.

The Attorney-General said there was no allegation of neglect in the writ.

Mr. Slade said the writ was in the usual form. Continuing, he said that when an action was brought against a British warship and judgment given, the damages were recovered from the captain personally, and he submitted that the captain of a foreign warship could not be in a better position than the captain of a British warship.

The Attorney-General pointed out that the difference between the captain of a British warship and the captain of a foreign warship was that the former was always within the jurisdiction of British Courts. The King's writs ran in all the King's ships.

The Chief Justice reserved his judgment.

Thursday, July 5th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE MARKS. Caesar Leuba and Charles Leuba, watch manufacturers, trading under the name of Leuba Freres, No. 2, Rue Sapin, Fleurier, Switzerland, brought an action against Ullman and Company, dealers in watches and silver ware, No. 34, Queen's Road Central, for infringing their trade marks. The claim was (1) an injunction to restrain the defendants, their servants and agents from infringing plaintiffs' trade marks by passing off or causing to be passed off watches not of the plaintiffs' manufacture as or for the plaintiffs' watches (2) an account of profits made by the defendants in the selling or disposing of any watches not of the plaintiffs' manufacture sold under any device hereinafter mentioned or as Ima watches, (3) an inquiry as to the damages suffered by plaintiffs by reason of the defendants passing off or causing to be passed off watches not of the plaintiffs' manufacture as Po Wai watches, (4) delivering up to plaintiffs by the defendants on oath of all watches not of the plaintiffs' manufacture in the defendants' possession marked with any of the devices aforesaid, price lists, etc.

Defendants denied that the trade marks in question were properly registered as the property of the plaintiffs and that the marks were used by the plaintiffs prior to 1875. They asserted that the characters Yeeuah were common to the watch trade in Hongkong and China and that plaintiffs and their predecessors had acquiesced in the use of such characters.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. Wilkinson (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for defendants.

Mr. Slade, after explaining that the proceedings commenced in 1901, stated that the points for his Lordship's consideration were: (1) whether the marks Po Wai and Ina are trade marks either alone or in combination with the border; (2) whether the plaintiffs are properly registered in respect of such marks; (3) whether the plaintiffs or their predecessors used such marks before 13th August, 1875; (4) whether the plaintiffs' watches marked with such marks are known as Po Wai and Ina watches; (5) whether the characters comprising Po Wai registered by the defendant in Berne in 1893 materially differ from those of the plaintiffs' Po Wai marks; (6) whether the plaintiffs' prior to these proceedings have complained of such infringement; (7) whether the defendants have in recent years sold watches bearing Po Wai marks; (8) whether the plaintiffs were aware that defendants have sold for many years past (a) watches marked "Ina" with circular border, (b) watches marked with scalloped border alone, without any character in the centre thereof; (9) whether the mark Ina is common to the trade in Hongkong and China either with or without a border; (10) whether the scalloped border alone is common to the trade; (11) whether the plaintiff has acquiesced in the infringement by defendants of their rights if any, in (a) scalloped border with azure (b) Ina; (12) whether the defendants' Ina and Po Wai marks are infringements of these registered marks, i.e., whether they are the same or so closely resemble as to be calculated to deceive; and (12) whether the defendants have done the acts alleged in paragraph 12.

Mr. Slade then sketched the history of the proceedings. The plaintiffs were the successors of Messrs. Bovet and Company, who were the inventors and originators of those two patents. Counsel described in detail the trade marks in question and said that the name was the only thing of value. Defendant, who was in Hongkong since 1860, must have known the watches bearing the characters Po Wai and Ina, but in 1903 he registered in Switzerland four Chinese characters which were identical with those of plaintiffs.

The case was adjourned.

AN EXPLANATION.

The Chief Justice stated, with reference to the decision of the Supreme Court yesterday, disallowing certain costs, that the solicitor had given him a full and frank explanation. There was much to be regretted in what had occurred, and the natural inference which his brother Justice and he had drawn was now disabused as the result of that conversation. He therefore accepted quite frankly the full explanation which had been given to him, and with the concurrence of his learned brother that part of the judgment would be dispensed with.

Friday July 6th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED INFRINGEMENT OF TRADE MARKS.

The hearing of the action in which Caesar Leuba and Charles Leuba, watch manufacturers, trading under the name of Leuba Freres, No. 2, Rue Sapin, Fleurier, Switzerland, sought an injunction against Ullman and Company, dealers in watches and silver ware, No. 34, Queen's Road Central, to restrain them from infringing plaintiffs' trade marks was resumed.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. Wilkinson (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), appeared for defendants.

Mr. Slade continued his opening statement, and quoted a number of cases in support of his contention, after which he read the evidence taken on commission in Switzerland.

The case was adjourned.

CHINA WOMAN'S DEATH.

SUICIDE TO ESCAPE CREDITORS.

At the Magistracy on the 4th July Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz held an inquiry into the cause of death of Chan Tai-shing, a female, 19 years of age, who committed suicide by jumping into the harbour at Praya East on the 24th ultimo.

Dr. Macfarlane gave evidence as to holding a postmortem examination on the body of deceased, but said it was too decomposed to admit of a diagnosis. He thought drowning was the cause of death.

Chap Loc-ho, of No. 43, Ship Street, said deceased had been in her house for about two years. She last saw her alive on the night of the 24th ultimo, when deceased said she was going for a walk. Witness had heard that the girl was always talking about killing herself, so followed her. Deceased walked to the end of the wooden wharf near Blue Buildings and jumped into the sea. Witness grabbed her, but was unable to hold her, so informed the police and made a report at No. 2 station. Witness thought deceased took her life because she was in debt. Her creditors were continually pressing her for payment, and being unable to meet their demands she took her life. Witness did not know how much money she owed, or for what she owed it.

In reply to Mr. Dyer Ball, of the Registrar-General's Department, witness said it was not a fact that deceased owed the money to her mistress. The mistress supplied her with food but she paid for her own clothing.

After further evidence was heard a verdict of suicide by drowning was recorded.

A BAD-TEMPERED "BOY."

Mrs. E. Robinson, of No. 6, "Mountain View," The Peak, charged her house-boy with assaulting her, and with disobeying lawful orders.

Complainant stated that before leaving for the city on Saturday morning she instructed the boy to do certain work. When she returned home she found that he had not set about his task, so she caught him by the queue and asked him why the work was not done. He picked up a tin can and struck her across the mouth with it. Defendant was a good boy, and worked well, but he probably refused to do what he was ordered on this occasion in a fit of temper.

Defendant stated that when he was tugged by the pigtail he grew dizzy, and the can flew round and struck the complainant.

His Worship sentenced him to one month's imprisonment and six hours' stocks on the first charge and bound him over in the sum of \$100 on the second charge.

NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

THE CROPS.

The first crop of rice is being cut. Unfortunately, it is very uneven, due partly to the scarcity of water in the early spring. Many fields were not cultivated owing to the drought, but those that were cultivated have produced a good crop.

Lichees have not come up to expectations. It is stated that the ants affected the flowers and that high winds prevailing at the critical time when the fruit was forming have been the causes of the unsatisfactory crop.

Neither will the pineapple crop be good this year, another effect of the lack of moisture in the early part of the year.

The peanut crop looks very promising on the whole, as also the sugar cane.

It will be remembered that, the Government about a year ago introduced a scheme for the preservation of the forestry of the New Territory. Only a few people took out licenses, but now that the scheme has become systematised better results are being obtained. Licences are granted to villagers to cultivate trees which

are not to be cut down until they reach a certain stage of maturity, and then if cut down others to be planted in their place. These licences do not, of course, allow the inhabitants to cut down wild trees or the natural hill products.

A number of robberies have taken place over the border in Chinese territory. It is thought that the scarcity of food inland, owing to the floods, is responsible for many bad characters spreading over the country.

The railway embankment near Taipo has suffered from the heavy rains. Deep ruts have been made and these will have to be repaired. Until the embankment has a growth of grass, these incidents will likely continue.

THE STERLING MAN AND THE DOLLAR.

INDIAN POLICE DISSATISFIED.

Events which are alleged to have occurred at the Central Police Station on July 6 indicate that the agitation among those Government servants who are paid on a sterling basis has spread to the Indian police. Throughout the service great dissatisfaction prevails, but appears to be more pronounced in the police than other branches. We understand that the Indian police waited on the Captain Superintendent and laid their case before him, and it is said they were persuaded to return to duty with difficulty. We further learn that the C.S.P. sentenced one man to seven days' imprisonment for insubordination, and that other cases are pending.

THE COMMISSION.

UNOFFICIAL EVIDENCE INVITED.

That the Government Commission inquiring into the operation of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance and the question of irregularities on the part of officials is serious in the work it has undertaken has never been gainsaid, and, though unexpected, the advertisement which appeared in the H.D.P. inviting the co-operation of the inhabitants amply bears out that view. There was never any doubt but that the Commission would be able to make a searching inquiry, to be followed by a deeply interesting report, but the greater evidence coming from outside sources will undoubtedly add to the value of its deliberations. The promised protection of witnesses should remove any reluctance on the part of those in a position to testify.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

A few months ago we referred to the progress that had been made with regard to the Kowloon-Canton Railway, particularly in the neighbourhood of Taipo, where several miles of embankment had been raised. Now it is interesting to learn that nearer Kowloon there are indications that the work is being seriously taken in hand. Trees have been cut down, the road cleared, and the route marked out from Shatin to Taipo. As is known, the railway will run parallel with the shore all the way between these two places, and from Ha-wo-tse, above Shatin, it will also run parallel with the highway. The principal work on the British section will lie here for the next three years. Already operations have been commenced on the face of the tunnel which will penetrate from above the village of Kanghaw to Kowloon Tsai, preparations having been made for the sinking of a shaft.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the progress of the work is that next month will see the arrival of 500 coolies from the north, to be followed shortly afterwards by another contingent of the same number. These men are experienced in railway work, having been employed on the construction of the railways in the vicinity of Peking. Between 40 and 50 matcheds have been erected at Shatin for their accommodation. We also learn that Indian engineers, who have been engaged on French railways in Yunnan, are employed here.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 28th.

THE BRASS-BAND STAGE.

A good deal of haggling is still going on amongst the different groups of people, merchants and gentry who hold contrary opinions with regard to the management of the Canton-Hankow Railway. Meetings are held at which the discontent of the different parties is truly expressed. In spite of all these recriminations, however, the affair seems to be settled as far as management is concerned and to-day the incorporation of the new headquarters will take place in the spacious building which used to be Chau Tung-sang's family residence. Invitations have been sent to all the foreign consuls and the China officials, and delegations from all the colleges will attend the ceremony. It is said that a brass band will be in attendance to enliven proceedings.

A CHINESE RAILWAY ENGINEER.

Taotai Cheang, the president of the Company has petitioned Viceroy Shum to memorialize the Throne to obtain the appointment of T'otai Chim Tin-yan as chief engineer of the Railway. Viceroy Shum has informed Taotai Cheang that he has memorialized the Central Government accordingly and that he has requested Viceroy Yun Shih kai to order Taotai Chim Tin-yan to come to Canton at an early date.

THE SALTERS' TEMPLE.

Li Chuen-fong has petitioned the Salt Commissioner requesting him to turn the Tin Hau Temple at Ching Hoi Mun into a college. The Salt Commissioner has declined his request, stating that the temple in question was built by the people who are concerned in the salt business and that it cannot be turned into a school. Li is requested to hunt some other place more suitable for his purpose.

IMPORTANT SALE.

Under instructions from the Viceroy, the Sin Hui Kuk has issued a notification stating that the houses lands and fields confiscated from Chau Tung-sang, Chau Tit-sai and others will be offered for sale in 97 lots. These properties will be sold at five weekly sales. The first sale will take place on July 15th. The purchaser is required to pay ten per cent. of the price as soon as the lot is knocked down to him, the balance to be paid within ten days.

SHARE MONEY.

The Kwong-chai Hospital held a meeting yesterday to devise the best means of depositing the money collected by that institution for railway shares. A hot debate ensued, as \$1,000 recently deposited with a bank through Fung Sing-nam is lost owing to the failure of the bank.

June 29th.

PROTRACTED MISSIONARY LITIGATION.

Judgment in the big land case in which Mrs. Kerr, an American missionary lady, and Wong King-tong were the litigants, has at last been delivered by the new Nam-Hoi Magistrate Cheong Wong-ye. This action has been going on for the last five years. Wong King-tong appeared in person, while Mrs. Kerr was represented by a native missionary named Au. The dispute was over a large piece of land on the foreshore of Fong Chuen.

Magistrate Cheong in giving judgment said that on perusing the title deeds of Wong King-tong he found that he had in his possession the title deeds issued by the Board of Revenue and the official red deeds from the Poon Yu Magistrate, whereas Mrs. Kerr only held private deeds not bearing the stamp of the Poon Yu Magistrate. In going into the measurement of the ground in dispute he also found that the particulars contained in Wong King-tong's deeds were more correct than those specified in Mrs. Kerr's deeds. Moreover, some of the older deeds of Mrs. Kerr did not agree with those obtained later. According to Wong King-tong's original Crown lease he obtained the land from the Provincial Treasurer 39 years ago, whereas the oldest assignment in Mrs. Kerr's possession only goes 29 years back. Wong King-tong leased the land years before

Mrs. Kerr. Mrs. Kerr purchased one mow and one tenth of a mow and took possession of two mow and one fifth, which is exactly double, and not content with that wanted to encroach on property purchased by Wong King-tong 39 years ago, which was absolutely unreasonable. Judgment was consequently delivered in favour of Wong King-tong and the magistrate severely reprimanded Au for needless litigation.

June 30th.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

Yesterday a tea-party was given at the railway headquarters to the women shareholders in the Company. Numerous girls from the public schools were also present and a considerable number of women responded to the invitation. Tea and cakes were served. With the exception of a few male servants the whole gathering consisted of women. The women discussed their chances of making a rapid fortune and the shrill voices of these enterprising representatives of the weaker sex could be heard a few blocks away.

TEA FOR POLICEMEN.

Owing to the weather being very hot recently the superintendent of police has given orders to engage men to carry buckets of tea around the different police stations in the city so as to allow the men on duty to quench their thirst.

July 2nd.

RAILWAY STATION LOOTED.

Last week a daring gang of robbers armed to the teeth attacked the railway station at Kwa-Po, on the line between Shik-wai Tong and Fatsan. They left after ransacking thoroughly the station. Not one was caught.

A HOLIDAY CATASTROPHE.

On June 28th a large party of wealthy merchants engaged a big flower boat and went to a place called Yout-shing to witness the dragon boat races. On their way back the boat caught fire through some crackers falling on inflammable material. The fire spread so rapidly owing to the strong wind that the whole boat was ablaze in an instant. Twenty people lost their lives.

A TRADE "TIP".

The Kingchow and Ngai Chow Taotai has sent a petition to the Viceroy to be supplied with the following goods:—Five hundred Mauser rifles, 50,000 cartridges, one hundred Mauser repeaters, 10,000 cartridges, 50 cattles of lead shot, 20 doz. emery cloth, 50 cheong of fuse, 200 bottles linca oil, and a large quantity of steel and iron bars. Here is a "tip" for merchants who deal in the above articles.

PROPOSED PUBLIC GARDENS.

Viceroy Shum has instructed the Kwong-chow prefect Chau Mong-tsang to build a large public garden on foreign plans at the end of the reclamation road. The Viceroy has granted fifty mow for the purpose. The prefect has informed the Viceroy that it would cost at least Tls. 6,000.

THE SAMPAN NUISANCE.

Yesterday afternoon a sampan was run down by the s.s. *Honam* as she was proceeding to her wharf. It is a wonder that these accidents do not happen often, as these boats always crowd around arrivals while they are under weigh. No indemnity should be allowed in cases of this sort. The boats should be left to take their chance of being sunk if they persist in trying to board moving steamers.

EMPRESS AND VICEROY.

On June 30th all the local officials called on H. E. the Viceroy on the occasion of his receiving imperial presents from Peking, consisting of a hat, official robes, and many fans. H. E. received the congratulations of his subordinates during the whole day.

TAINTED MONEY.

The provincial coffers not overflowing, it is reported that Viceroy Shum has granted to a monopolist the privilege of forming brothels. H. E. seems to share the Roman Emperor Vespasian's opinion, that money is odourless.

July 5th.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

The Americans here did not neglect the "Glorious Fourth". Consul-General Lay was "at home", and the officers of the *Wilnington* received numerous guests aboard their fine ship. Sports were held in the afternoon, and

with the absence of rain a very fine day was spent.

QUEUE CUTTING FORBIDDEN.

Viceroy Shum has received a despatch from the military bureau in Peking instructing him to discourage any further queue cutting. Instructions have accordingly been issued to the superintendents of the different military colleges.

DIRECTORS' FEES.

A mass meeting of shareholders is to take place to-morrow at the old Governor's yamen. It is rumoured that the salary of the president will be Tls. 4,000 a month and of the vice-president Tls. 3,000 a month. This is nice (for them), but it is also rumoured that the shareholders will not agree to such emoluments being paid out before the concern is running.

PRISON REFORM.

The Prefect of Canton has given orders for a very necessary prison reform, intended to protect first offenders from the evil influence and cruelty of old jail-birds.

THE ZINC SEIZURE.

It will be remembered that some time ago the monopolist for lead and spelter illegally seized a certain number of zinc sheets sold to a Chinese firm by a British merchant. Thanks to the energetic action of Consul-General Mansfield and the impartiality of Wen Taotai the owner of the shop has now been released. The Chinese Wei-yuen who was deputed to investigate the case did not give satisfaction, as he was apparently partial to the monopolist. The owner of the shop being released, it may be surmised that the zinc sheets will likewise be restored to the proprietor. The monopolist's farm only covering lead and spelter.

THE DAMAGE TO THE LU-HAN LINE.

The following information has been sent to the *Peking Times* concerning the damage done to the Peking-Hankow and Kaifang-Honan Lines.

An enormous quantity of water like a water spout, fell in the parts of the country between Tchong-te-fou and Ki Sien in the North and Tchongteheon and Chutchesu in the South, carrying away trees and houses and cutting the line in several places.

The greatest damage was done around Tchenchuan.

At the junction station of the Peking-Hankow and Kaifang-Honan lines, the tracks were partly carried away, the water passing over the rails. In the station buildings and houses occupied by the engineers there was more than three feet of water.

The bridges of 50 feet span were washed away and railway material stored in the yard was partly carried away by the flood.

The damage was extensive and extending over a zone of 170 miles and the repairs will necessitate the interruption of the service for several days.

The most remarkable thing is that at Yellow River bridge no rise was noticed in the water of the terrible river: there were simply heavy rains only.

APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments are notified in the *Gazette*:—

The King's Exequatur empowering Mr. J. Eitzen to be Consul for Norway at Hongkong, has received His Majesty's signature.

The King's Exequatur empowering Mr. Amos Parker Wilder to be Consul-General for the United States of America at Hongkong has received His Majesty's signature.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. James Dyer Hall to be a Deputy Registrar of Marriages, with effect from the 22nd ult.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to appoint Alfred John May, late second master, *Queen's College*, to be a Member of the Imperial Service Order.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the Hon. Mr. Edward Osborne and Mr. Albert Denison to be members of the Authorized Architects' Consulting Committee, vice Messrs. Shewan and William Danby.

TRADE OF WUCHOW.

CONSULAR REPORT FOR 1905.

The report of Mr. Acting-Consul F. E. Wilkinson, on the trade of Wuchow in 1905, reached us yesterday. It opens as follows:—

I have again to record an increase in the value of the trade of Wuchow. The net total in 1905, as shown by the Imperial Maritime Customs returns and excluding therefore the junk trade, rose to £1,682,880, or 11,188,173 taels, as compared with £1,583,486, or 11,084,227 taels, in 1904, an increase of £99,394, or about 6 per cent. Expressed in silver the increase, it will be noticed, is only 103,946 taels. Whether reckoned in sterling or silver the total is a record.

Mr. Wilkinson predicted this increase in his previous report. It was, however, expected to be more pronounced, and he attributes the disappointment to the tightness of money at Hongkong and Canton. At Nanning the banks never charged less than 36 per cent. p. a. and at one time the rate rose to 180 per cent. (15 per cent. per month). Notwithstanding that this stringency continues, he says, the prospects for 1906 are not unfavourable. "The imports from foreign countries into Wuchow, the value of which last year was £1,121,410, are distributed between the provinces of Kwangsi, Kweichow and Yunnan. Kwangsi, in which Wuchow itself is situated, obtains about four-fifths of her foreign supplies through this port, the remainder entering the province via Lungchow or under transit pass from Canton and Pakhoi. Kweichow is also principally supplied with foreign goods via the West River, but her wants are also catered for through Mengtze in Yunnan and Hankow on the Yangtze. Probably about two-thirds of her imports are sent up to her from Wuchow. Yunnan takes the least of the three, certainly not more than 5 per cent. of her total imports. She is supplied almost entirely through her own treaty ports, Mengtze, Tengyueh and Ssümao."

Kwangsi failed to increase her purchases, but must not be considered poor on that account. The explanation is that the others grow so much opium that they have to buy everything else.

"I regret that I have no openings to suggest for British trade. There are many cheap novelties advertised in the trade journals sent to this Consulate for which a market of a kind undoubtedly exists here, but the difficulty is that there are no foreign firms at Wuchow engaged in the import business to whose attention I could bring them. As I pointed out in my last report, it is from Hongkong, with which the foreign trade of the port is entirely carried on, that Wuchow obtains its supplies of foreign goods and it is impossible for the Consul here, under the existing conditions, to be of any assistance to manufacturers at home in placing their products on the market. As the great industrial advance that is reported to be taking place in China is bringing an unusual number of catalogues of machinery to this Consulate, I may mention too that Wuchow and its hinterland have not, as yet, been affected by the movement, and that there is no demand here for machinery of any kind. Some very expensive mining plant, which was imported some years ago for a silver mine in the interior, though taken up to the mine, was never used and is still lying there. I have also come across some pumping machinery and a windmill which had been imported from America by a local agricultural company. When I saw them, though they had arrived four years previously, the cases had not even been unpacked and were being used as furniture in an old farmhouse where they still remain. These are the only two instances that I know of in which foreign machinery has been imported for industrial purposes. As the same time there can be no doubt that eventually railways will be built in this province, and its mineral and other resources exploited. When that time comes, British manufacturers who are properly represented in this country will have every chance of supplying their share of whatever machinery happens to be required, but, in the meanwhile, it is pure waste of money to send costly catalogues to this office.

"Though the Kwangsi province was more tranquil during the year under review than at any period since Wuchow was first opened to foreign trade, the conditions are still such as to afford little inducement to business men to invest capital in any schemes for the development of its undoubted resources. It appears to me, however, that the foreign trade of the province has by now become sufficiently valuable to make it well worth the while of some British firm of good standing at Hongkong to open a branch at this port and engage directly in the import and export business, instead of leaving it, as has been the case so far, in the hands of a few Chinese firms in the colony. These Chinese firms, which are really agencies of Canton and Fatsan houses, send buyers every year into the hinterland of this port to procure whatever produce may be offering for which a demand exists for export abroad amongst the foreign firms at Hongkong. As business is done for the most part by barter, these buyers have to take with them to every market town they visit as many bales of cotton yarn, which is the chief medium of exchange, or other foreign goods as they estimate will be sufficient to pay for the produce they may find there. They also take up with them a number of outward transit passes to exempt the goods which they buy from *liken en route* between the place of purchase and Wuchow. These passes are obtained through the representatives of the foreign shipping firms at this port who act as their agents in the matter on the condition that, when the goods reach Wuchow, they are to be shipped by their steamers. When sufficient produce has been purchased at any place in the interior, it is brought down to this port by native boat where, after duty has been paid on it, it is shipped by steamer to Hongkong. On the arrival of the cargo at Hongkong it is usually offered in turn to the various foreign firms, most of which are German, engaged in the export business there and is sold to the highest bidder amongst them. In some cases the goods are ordered and the price fixed in advance. The system has many good points to recommend it as it involves no risk to the foreign merchant and very little trouble; but any foreign firm with capital at its disposal which, instead of waiting for the business to come to it at Hongkong, opens a branch of its own at this port and sends its own buyer into the interior, will apparently have so many advantages over the native firms with which it competes that, while greatly benefiting its import trade, it will also be able to lay down produce for export at Hongkong at lower cost than these firms are able to do. The latter are greatly handicapped and their enterprise restricted by lack of capital, of which a certain amount is needed to engage in the business. The native banks, to which they are obliged to have recourse for the advances they require, charge very heavy rates of interest, usually from 12 to 36 per cent. Then, again, native merchants are not able to keep in touch with the foreign markets in the same way that a foreign firm can. The advantage of having a branch at Wuchow instead of working the trade from Hongkong direct is, first of all, that less opposition will be encountered here and, secondly, that the knowledge that there is a firm here which will buy produce—at present Wuchow is merely a port of transshipment—will encourage sellers in the interior, instead of waiting for the buyers to visit them, to bring their goods down themselves to the port. Probably, too, many of the boatmen who convey merchandise up river and return with empty boats would also take advantage of the market that the firm would offer to bring down small lots of produce as a private speculation. It is essential, however, in my opinion, that the representative of any British firm that opens a branch at this port should not only be a good business man but have sufficient knowledge of Chinese to be able to discuss business directly with his customers, otherwise he cannot avoid being to a great extent in the hands of his Chinese staff, whose interests are not always the interests of their employers. Before starting business it would, of course, be necessary for the representative of the firm to make a thorough study of local conditions and the resources of the province, a precaution generally neglected."

CHINESE COTTON MARKET.

JAPANESE POINT OF VIEW.

Mr. Jotaro Yamanoto, acting director of the Mitsui and Co., states in the *Chugai Shogyo* about the cotton mills at Shanghai, as follows:—

The cotton mill business in Shanghai is making a fair progress. At present the spindles in Shanghai number about 300,000, of which 100,000 are owned by the Chinese, 100,000 by the English, 50,000 by the Japanese and 40,000 by the Germans. The cotton mills are representative of the different countries' business interests in China, in regard not only to cotton mill business alone, but to industry in general. Judged from the results of investigations carried out in the past four or five years, the cotton mills worked by the Japanese compare favourably with those of other nationalities. As a cause of the superiority, it may be said that the community of letters used by the Japanese and Chinese and the similarity of their thoughts in the main, make it easier for the former to control the Chinese operatives than for other nationals. We have been in consequence able to dispense with compradores and save their commissions. Our concerns therefore have succeeded to pay a handsome amount of dividends and to set aside reserve funds, while almost all those belonging to other nationals had to go without paying any dividends since the establishment of their concerns. It is again an undeniable fact that the Chinese have come to recognize the industrial ability of the Japanese. Of late they have been scheming to organize three or four cotton mills, and it is the uniform desire of promoters to engage Japanese engineers and experts for their factories. A similar tendency is to be observed in connection with other industrial enterprises taken up by the Chinese. The sorts of cotton yarns demanded in China are varied. Manchuria demands 10-hand, Shanghai 14-hand, Tientsin and Chefoo 16-hand, and Szechuan 20-hand, while India supplies 10-hand and 20-hand and China 14-hand. Cotton yarn made in Japan sold well this year. The sale of cotton yarns according to their sorts and to the places where they are sold. Formerly Japanese yarns were quoted below or equal to Indian yarns. At present, however, the Chinese have come to admit the superiority of our yarns in quality. They are therefore quoted five or six taels above Indian yarns. At Tientsin, Chefoo, and Hankow, our 16-hand yarns dearer as they are than Indian yarns, can command the market. But Szechuan prefers inferior and cheaper 20-hand sort. It is, however, desirable that our cotton mills should strive to maintain the good quality of their yarns.

The trade in general at Shanghai is most active at present. The large sum of money spent there by the late belligerents has greatly increased the purchasing power of the Chinese. A large amount of cotton yarns and cotton goods was exported from Japan to Shanghai during the war and it is quite reasonable to expect that the trade will continue to prosper for the future.

A MUSICAL LAUNCH PARTY.

The members of the Bowling Club held a smoking concert on June 30th in circumstances that deserve to be frequently imitated. A fine new launch, the *Hun Kong*, was chartered for a cruise out to sea. There was a piano, many vocalists, sundry bottles, and skilful servants aboard. The launch was draped with flags, and lighted with a powerful arc lamp. The flags, while they made a very coloursome spectacle, were rather a mistake, for "the moon on the water was dimmed by a ripple, affording a chequered delight", and it was only the few who put out their heads who realised the real happiness of these three hours of aquatic harmony. There is no need to repeat the programme; most of the singers, and all the songs, were well known to the company; and it will be sufficient to say that Messrs. Inokay, Hume, Chapple, Burnett, and Jordan were rewarded with applause as frequent as it was spontaneous. During the voyage, the prizes for the Club's billiard handicap were presented, Mr. H. S. Holmes receiving a handsome silver bowl, and Mr. Zenkowitz a well-made flask.

SETTLEMENT OF THE NANCHANG AFFAIR.

The following terms with reference to the above have been agreed upon between M. Pabst, Minister for France in Peking, and the Chinese Government—(1) The Chinese Government agrees to acknowledge that Magistrate Chiang Chao-tang committed suicide and that his family should not be entitled to receive any indemnity therefor. (2) The Chinese Government agrees to pay an indemnity of Tls. 200,000 for damages to the Roman Catholic Church property and for indemnifying the priests who suffered. (3) Chinese officials in Kiangsi province who failed to give adequate protection in Nanchang on the occasion of the riot in question to be all cashiered. (4) Ringleaders in the attack on the Roman Catholic Church and Christians to be all punished. (5) The Chinese Government agrees to erect a monument in memory of the priests who were killed during the said riot.

The above agreement was signed in Peking on the 20th instant between the representatives of the high contracting parties, and it may also be stated that the British-Chinese agreement in connection with the deaths of the late Mr. Kingham and his daughter, was also signed the same day. The amount to be paid by the Chinese Government, in this connection is between Tls. 20,000 and 30,000. Thus ends a matter which took the French and Chinese officials concerned nearly four months to bring to a satisfactory conclusion, it having been especially difficult for the Chinese Commissioners who dared not come to an agreement in the face of the contention of the people of Kiangsi and officials in Peking hailing from that province that Magistrate Chiang was murdered and that it was not a case of self-destruction. The whole matter hung on this one contention, which at one crucial moment even threatened to involve the province in a general anti-Christian rising. Of course the secret societies in the Yangtze Valley were eager to take advantage of the popular discontent against the Government to stir up a regular rebellion in the province, but fortunately the prompt measures taken by the Acting Governor, H.E. Wu Ch'ung-hsi, and the military authorities of Kiangsi in suppressing so-called rice riots in various parts of that province, notably in the Poyang and Fuchou districts, prevented these riots from attaining to any serious proportions, and we may therefore consider that it is all quiet at present in Kiangsi province. Naturally there will be grumbling amongst some Kiangsi men, but they will be too few in number to cause any serious trouble. —N.-C. Daily News.

THE RAILWAYS OF INDO-CHINA.

The *Echo de Chine* of June 23rd said:—

So many hopes and aspirations with reference to the relations between our colony and South China are centred in their completion that we should not neglect this question.

On the 27th of January last, acting on a report drawn up by M. Clementel, Minister of the Colonies, the President of the Republic published a decree authorising the commencement of the following works of construction:—

1.—On the section of the Saigon-Khanhhoa line lying between the 132nd kilometre and Khanhhoa.

2.—On the section of the Langbian line lying between Phanrang and Damhin.

3.—On the section of the Tourane-Hue-Quangtri line lying between Hue and Quangtri.

From the report of the Committee of Commerce and Industry of Indo-China we learn that though the railway round the coast of Indo-China will, no doubt, render important services from an economic point of view, it cannot attain its immediate object, with reference to the defence of Indo-China, namely, the junction of the military forces of Tonking and Cochinchina. The reason is that, being constructed, so to speak, in the form of a cornice of the coast of Annam and Tonking, it is directly threatened by the enemy and could not be relied upon, in war, to afford certain inter-communication.

Fully cognizant of this, M. Beau, Governor-General of Indo-China, has under consideration the proposal to run a railway from Saigon to

Hanoi by the Mekong. Different routes have been suggested. One, which passed by the hill of Mengia and seemed the most advantageous, seems to have been abandoned, and the engineering authorities are in favour of the route passing by Trannich on to the Upper Mekong crossing the *pnom* Anreok to the point discovered by Lieutenant Barthelamy, thence rejoining the Lower Mekong at Krachmar, whence Saigon would be reached via Tay Ninh.

This railway would cost about 130,000,000 francs. Various suggestions have been made with reference to providing the funds. The Committee expresses a hope that the investigations will be carried out as quickly as possible and the project brought to completion. The railway, besides being indispensable for the defence of Indo-China, would be of great assistance in enhancing the value of French Laos and of the territory on the right bank of the Mekong, recognised as under French influence by the last agreements between France, Great Britain, and Siam.

WEST RIVER NAVIGATION.

Mr. Acting-Consul F. E. Wilkinson, in his 1905 report on Wuchow trade, says:—

The year 1905 will always be notable in the history of launch navigation in this province, as the first year in which steam vessels have plied regularly on the upper reaches of the West River as far as Lungchow in the extreme west, Posé on the Yunnan frontier and Linchow in the north. The privilege, however, of plying to these distant places was reserved for the Chinese flag. Navigation, too, to Nanning which three years ago was only believed to be possible for launches during one or two months in the year, was maintained by vessels drawing 4 feet from April to the beginning of December and, after that, until the middle of February 1906, by a motor launch of 18 inches draught, which, but for an accident on her last trip up, would still be running. This vessel was the first of her type to make an appearance on the West River and, firmly as I believe in a future for motor engines in these waters, I must admit that she was not a success. Her failure was chiefly due to lack of speed and, at first, to the unreliability of her engine. Subsequently her engineer, a Chinese trained at Hongkong, got to understand the working of it better and for the last two months of her career she ran without a single breakdown. In justice to her builders and designers it should be explained that the vessel was constructed to run between Nanning and Posé, a section of the river on which speed is of little account. She was unable to do so as the necessary permission was withheld by the Chinese authorities.

Another feature of the inland navigation trade last year was the increased extent to which cargo was carried by launches plying on the upper river, especially by those running to Nanning. Yarn, piece-goods and opium are the goods usually conveyed.

Piracy was less prevalent on the West River in 1905 than in the previous year, but there was a recrudescence of the evil at the beginning of the present year. Four British launches in all were held up and plundered during 1905.

DISASTROUS STORM AT SHANGHAI.

A telegram to the *Daily Press* dated Shanghai, July 5th, said:—

A sudden and severe squall, accompanied by a heavy thunderstorm, passed over Shanghai to-day. Considerable damage was done to a few Chinese and foreign properties.

The *Tuckoo* was struck by lightning and dismantled. Vessels dragged their anchors, and the *Dott* collided with the *Mandjour*.

A house-boat returning from Mokanshan capsized. Mr. Robert Law was drowned, and Mr. McGillivray, though imprisoned for half an hour, escaped.

A large reception shed at Soochow was destroyed.

Saturday's opening ceremony has been postponed for a week. The railway is undamaged.

UNIQUE REFERENCE BOOK.

Who's Who in the Far East, 1906-7. Published for the Proprietors by the China Mail, Ltd. \$10.

"Who is he?" is a question often asked in the European communities of the Far East, and this publication, modelled on its well-known London prototype and namesake, is designed to answer the query. With the solitary exception of the list of Chinese officials prepared by the Chinese secretaries of H.B.M. Legation at Peking (a very different publication) it is the only thing of the kind so far attempted in the East. The Editor in a preface deprecates the impression that the book is anything more than a reference book; and that the intention was confined exclusively to such no one can deny. Unfortunately, the best of admitted intentions cannot avert the impressions hinted at, even in the case of such an undoubtedly useful work as the London *Who's Who*. There will always be some user who, looking for particulars of some lion, will grumble at being forced into contact with details concerning others whom he may regard as mice. In referring to the "mistaken modesty" of those who were shy of inclusion in this galaxy of immortality, the Editor made no allowance for some who honestly preferred to remain in the obscurity which they regarded as their only rightful position. Their estimate of their own unimportance might not coincide with editorial views, and it would certainly increase the difficulty and the really hard work of compiling the book; but their wishes should certainly be respected. After all, it might be embarrassing to John Smith, after conscientiously answering all the questions of the compilers, to find that some very highly placed person had been more concise. To see perhaps on the same page that His Illustriousness the Rajah was born on such and such a day, ascended the Throne some time after, and is still sitting on it; while John Smith was born on Tuesday, the 27th of February, 1880; passed the seventh standard of Muffats Board School in 1892; m Sarah Jane Tomkins in 1902; apprentice 1893-6; promoted cashier 1897; made partner in 1901; and collects picture postcards; to see such a juxtaposition, we repeat, lays John Smith under an imputation he is doubtless far from deserving. Such are some of the difficulties incidental to such an enterprise, in London as well as in the Far East; and it says much for the editing of the book under review that they have been so ably minimised. We have not the slightest doubt that as a work of reference it has "come to stay" and that it will swell in bulk and usefulness as succeeding numbers appear.

At present it contains biographies in brief of nearly two thousand persons more or less eminent in the life of the Far East, official and unofficial, European and Asiatic, embracing China, Japan, the Straits, the Philippines, etc. There are (as we have hinted) biographies that may never be needed for reference; we have also noticed one or two omissions that surprise us. Really public men ought all to accede to the invitation of the publishers; in a sense it is a duty; they no longer have claims to the privacy and obscurity to which John Smith has a right to cling. [By the way, there is no John Smith in the book; so we have less fear than we might have had in mentioning his case. The John Smith we mention is, of course, a merely Pickwickian person.] It remains only to add that we have tested the book here and there at random, and find it works well. The particulars are just the kind needed. The paper and type are good; and we can offer sincere compliments to all concerned in the production.

SHANGHAI DOCKS.

THE FINAL DIVIDEND.

Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co., write:—We beg to inform you that we are in receipt of telegraphic advices from Shanghai that the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., have declared a final dividend of Tls. 4 per share, making in all Tls. 8 per share for 1905/1906. We are also informed that the transfer books close on 9th inst., and that the meeting of shareholders is to be held on 17th inst.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

Hankow, 27th June, 1906.—Business reported since the 20th June, is as under:—

	1906.	1905.
Settlements ...	29,966	29,825

The following are statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 28th June, 1905.

	1906.	1905.
HANKOW TEA. ½-Chests.	½-Chests.	½-Chests.
Settlements ...	283,637	339,535
Stock ...	83,343	57,892

Arrivals...	366,980	397,427.
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	1906.	1905.
KIUKIANG TEA ½-Chests.	½-Chests.	½-Chests.
Settlements ...	145,970	152,059
Stock ...	14,893	19,975

Arrivals...	160,863	172,634
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SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, June 23rd, 1906, states:—The Home Markets are firm. Gold Kiling is quoted in Lyons at Fcs. 36. Raw Silk.—Prices have advanced. Settlements of 500-600 bales Good and Chay Kiling were reported yesterday. Yellow Silks.—Business in New Silk has not yet been reported. Hand Filatures.—A few settlements for Europe are recorded, but the higher prices asked renders business very difficult—for America some settlements have been made in new and old Silk, but buying is by no means general. Steam Filatures.—We hear of sales in fine sizes New Silk, and one or two lots of Old Silk 13-15. Waste Silk.—In New Season's Waste, Curlies are being held at Tls. 70 for No. 1, but no business has taken place; we have not heard any news in other descriptions.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, July 7th.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.		
Malwa New	\$950	to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1000	to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1050	to — do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1100	to — do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$750	to — do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$800	to — do.
Patna New	\$877½	to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$847½	to — do.
Benares New	\$805	to — do.
Benares Old	\$—	to — do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 28th June, 1906, states:—The week under review has been a decidedly broken one—five days very heavy rain and two Bank holidays, the second of which was also a Customs holiday, the long looked for "Dragon Festival," the fifth of the fifth moon, the most important of the settling days. Great hopes have been centred on this as the possible turning point after so many weeks of utter stagnation, but if any benefits are to be derived from it they are for the most part indefinitely deferred. As was only natural under the circumstances everything has been practically at a standstill, clearances being suspended during the rain and the departure of steamers postponed. Yesterday it cleared up somewhat and some movement was apparent amongst the Natives both in English and American goods. The sellers, however, complain that prices are very poor, but the small demand does not permit of bargaining with so many weak holders willing and anxious to part. No demand has reached first hands yet, although we did come across one Importer making out a contract for 20 cases White Shirtings to a Hankow buyer—goods that had been in Godown for about eight months, and he was glad to sell them at a price that about scrapes out without loss, but fully

three mace below the cost of replacing. That is a true indication of the market, and the man who can do that must consider himself lucky. The long spell of drought in the North has at length been broken, but although the rainfall has made the creeks navigable and thus enables cargo to be moved, it has apparently come too late to save the crops. The prospects are not at all cheerful for the Tientsin trade, in consequence of this, and very little is being cleared. Chefoo is, however, bucking up and is apparently supplying some of Tientsin's former customers, and it is cheering to hear further supplies continue to go forward from this via that port. Kiaochow is also distributing a fair quantity, which seems to show some of the advantages of the railways. Strange to say the Yangtze markets are suffering from too much moisture, the effects of the recent floods being very severe and the consequent rice famine is having a very serious effect on trade, the price of the comestibles having gone up so much it takes all the earnings of the country folk to buy food, and imports in the shape of dry goods are entirely neglected. The Newchwang trade is said to be better, but very little sign of it has been received here. It is difficult to get any reliable information, but we were told this morning by one of the leading dealers here that Pepperell Drills were selling there at Tls. 3.80. We give this for what it is worth, but if true it shows a pretty ghastly state of affairs. Half yearly returns of stocks.—The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce has issued the sheets for these returns in good time this year to enable holders to utilise the numerous holidays the trade is now enjoying, and it is hoped there will be less delay than usual in sending them in. Several important changes have been made in the forms, which should simplify things and add to the value of the returns.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 4th July, 1906.

Apricot	\$30	to —
Borax	\$21	—
Cassia	\$18	—
Cloves	\$34	—
Camphor	\$135	—
Cow Bezoar	\$120	\$130
Fennel Seed	\$9	—
Galangal	\$5	—
Grapes	\$17	—
Kismis	\$18	—
Glue	\$24	—
Olibanum	\$6 17	—
Oil Sandalwood	\$250	\$325
" Rosa	\$50	\$160
" Cassia	\$157	—
Raisins	\$10	—
Senna Leaves	\$2	\$5
Sandalwood	\$23	\$30
Saltperre	\$10.50	—

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 25th June, 1906, states:—Gallnuts.—Business in usual Galls has been exceedingly slow in the interval, first cost prices and exchange being higher again. Cowhides.—Season closed. Tobacco.—Nothing doing. Feathers.—Nothing doing. Cotton.—The market is very firm and only a few parcels intended for export have changed hands in the meantime. Tallow.—There has been a good demand for green Kiyu vegetable tallow and some transactions have transpired. Strawbraid.—Supplies of all kinds of braids remain very small in this market and prices are consequently very firm. The only goods in which transactions have taken place are Loyeh, Corded, Purl and Split straw. Goat skin fugs.—Very little offering. Wool.—Only a small business has been done in the meantime.

Per steamer *Deucalion*, sailed on 21st June. For London or Continent:—25 cases bristles. For London:—583 rolls matting, 241 bales canes, 200 casks preserves, 562 packages merchandise. For London or Continent:—74 cases bristles, 40 bales feathers, 67 bales galangal, 190 bales canes, 205 packages merchandise. For Amsterdam:—65 cases chinaware, 75 cases cassia. For Rotterdam:—5 cases chinaware. For Antwerp:—137 bales feathers, 65 rolls matting.

Per steamer *Hyson*, sailed on 21st June. For Smyrna:—10 cases essential oil, 34 bales galangal. For Genoa:—10 bales cassia. For Marseilles:—10 cases essential oil, 100 cases camphor, 67 bales galangal, 29 bales human hair, etc., 322 bales canes, 50 cases gullnuts, 109 bales galangal, 26 bales human hair, etc. For Liverpool:—150 bales waste silk, 100 bales mats, 97 cases sundries. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For Valencia:—100 cases cassia.

Per steamer *Preussen*, sailed on 21st June. For Naples:—100 cases cassia. For Genoa:—99 bales raw silk, 10 cases chinaware, 1 case screens. For Valencia:—200 cases cassia. For Antwerp:—300 cases cassia, 22 cases blackwoodware. For Antwerp or Copenhagen:—4 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—58 cases chinaware, 51 rolls matting. For Rotterdam:—25 bales canes, 3 cases chinaware. For Bremerhaven:—1 case curios, 2 cases ginger. For Hamburg:—77 bales canes, 42 cases blackwoodware, 41 cases chinaware, 20 cases bristles, 6 cases feathers. For Copenhagen:—500 cases cassia, 100 bales cassia.

Per P. & O. steamer *Arcadia*, sailed on 30th June. For Copenhagen:—7 cases cigars. For Liverpool:—7 cases cigars. For Manchester:—150 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—2 cases silks. For London:—208 packages tea (from Amoy), 539 packages tea (from Foochow), 130 packages tea, 31 cases cigars, 1 case lacquerware, 56 cases camphor, 14 cases silks. For Lyons:—72 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—94 bales raw silk, 3 cases feathers, 2 cases silks. For Trieste:—1 case curios. For London:—4 packages curios, 250 cases cassia, 189 cases chinaware, 3 packages sundries, 18 bales woodware, 5 cases feathers, 7 cases chinaware (for Glasgow).

HANKOW, 27th June, 1906.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 36.00
Do. Seconds	31.50
Buffalo Hides, Best Selected	18.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white color	(nom.)
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	9.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	12.00
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	11.25
Green China Grass, Szechuen	12.50
Jute	5.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	10.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	10.20
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	9.00
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	9.00
Animal Tallow	10.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	15.60
Do. Plum do.	18.50
Tobacco, Tingchow	9.00
Do. Wongkong	11.00
Black Bristles	110.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	(nom.)
" " " Wild Duck	(")
Turneric	3.50
Sesamum Seed	(nom.)
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.50
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	8 (nom.)
Wood Oil	8.50
Tea Oil	9.00

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, July 9th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1½
ON LONDON.—	
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/1½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	286½
Credits 4 months' sight	270½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	217
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	514
Credits, 60 days' sight	521
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	158½
Bank, on demand	158½

ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	158½
Bank, on demand	158½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	103½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	103½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	10½ p.c.p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	127½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	2½ p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	2 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.40
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$49.70
BAR SILVER, per oz.	30

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 6th July, 1906.—Notwithstanding the approach of dividend payments, the market continues to rule dull, and business remains restricted to a small investing purchases. Rates in most cases show a further weakness, and we have nothing of any importance to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued in demand, but we have heard of no sales, and the market closes firm at quotation, inclining to a higher rate. Nationals remain steady with an incipient demand at \$47 cum the call of £1 paid up during the week.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have again been placed at \$810, closing steady at that rate. Cantons have declined to \$342.50 with sales. China Traders' Certificates are enquired for but none appear to be available. Yangtszes and North Chinas remain quiet at quotations without any local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at the improved rate of \$312.50, but close with sellers at that rate. Chinas remain steady at \$85 with small sales and buyers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao, after sales at \$26.75, were placed at \$27, at which latter rate sellers rule the market, although a few odd lots could still be placed at \$27. Indos continue weak at \$76.50 with no business of any importance to report. Douglases have improved to \$42½ without bringing any shares on the market. Shell Transports have changed hands in unimportant lots at quotation. Star Ferries continue neglected.

REFINERIES.—Sales of China Sugars are reported at \$150, at which rate the market closes. Luzons are unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Rau's have found further buyers at \$34, and close steady at that. Charbonnages remain without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have further declined and sales have been effected at \$150, sellers at that rate ruling the market at time of closing. Kowloon Wharves have been in steady demand during the week, and sales have been made at \$102, \$102½, \$103, \$103½, and reported sales at \$104, the market closes firm at \$103½ to \$104. Farnhams, now the Shanghai Dock Co., have ruled decidedly weaker on the declaration of a final dividend of Tls. 4, making Tls. 8 for the year; at time of writing Shanghai quotes Tls. 107. Amoy Docks are without business. Hongkew Wharves are quoted in the North at Tls. 222.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled weaker, and after further sales at \$115 the rate fell to \$114, and later to \$113, with sales at both rates; the market closes with sellers at \$113. West Points are on offer at \$52 without inducing buyers to come forward. Humphreys are very quiet and we have no further sales to report. Kowloon Lands are also neglected and without sales.

COTTON MILLS.—We have no changes or business to report under this heading.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Bell's Asbestos have changed hands at \$7 ex the dividend of 50 cents paid on the 29th ult. Elements have found buyers during the week at \$27½ and \$28, the market closing firm at the latter rate. China Borneo are enquired for at the improved rate of \$74. Watsons have been negotiated at \$13½, \$13.15 and later at \$13, the market closing steady at

the last rate. Steam Laundries, Ropes, Watkins, Electrics, Fenwicks, and Hongkong Cottons are all offering at quotations without any business to report.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$822½, buyers
National B. of China		London, 292. 5s.
A. Shares	£6	\$47, cum call
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, ex div.
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$7½, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 68
Hongkong	\$10	\$14, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 61
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 310
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$104, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$150, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$18, sellers
Shanghai Dock and		
Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 107
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 222
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$22, sellers
G. Island Cement.	\$10	\$28, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$235
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$127½, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$24½, buyers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$29, sellers
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$9½
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$342½
China Fire	\$20	\$85, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$98, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$812½, sellers
North China	25	Tls. 85
Union	\$100	\$810, sales & buy.
Yangtsze	\$60	\$175, sellers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$113, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$38, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 110
West Point Building	\$50	\$52, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$450, nominal
Raub	18/10	\$31, sales
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$150, sales & sel.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$20, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$20, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$42½, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$27
Indo-China S.N. Co.	£10	\$76½, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	\$7½, sales
Star Ferry	\$10	\$30
Do. New	\$5	\$21
Shanghai & H. Dyeing		
South China M. Post.	\$50	\$50
Steam Laundry Co.	\$25	\$20, sellers
	\$5	\$6, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$32
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$104
Watkins	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13, buyers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 28th June, 1906, states:—The week under review included two holidays, and with the settlement coming on Thursday there is little business to report. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. No business reported. Hongkong quotes \$815 buyers; London quotation is £92. 5s. The T/T on London is 2/11. Fire and Marine Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indos. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 57, and further shares are wanted. Shanghai Tugs. A few shares have changed hands at Tls. 62, but there is very little demand. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. Business has been done at Tls. 112 June, Tls. 113 and 114 July, closing steady at these rates. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. This market is very quiet. Business has been done at Tls. 221 cash and June, Tls. 230 Sept., and Tls. 232½ October. Sugars.—Perak Sugars have changed hands at Tls. 105 c.n.i. which would make the price of the old issue Tls. 80. Mining.—There is a small demand for Weihaiwei Golds at \$2. Lands.—No business reported. Industrial.—Ewos. These have changed hands at Tls. 68. Laou Kung Mow Shares are wanted at Tls. 71 cash. A few shares have changed hands at Tls. 75 and 76 for December. Internationals. A fair number of shares are on the market, but there are few buyers. Anglo-German Brewery Shares have again been dealt in at \$86. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. The market remains practically unchanged. Business has been done at Tls. 228, 228½, 229 and 227 and 227½ June, closing at the latter rate. Forward business is reported at Tls. 231, 232 and 232½ September. Stores and Hotels.—Centrals have been dealt in at \$154. Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 16½ July, and Astor House Hotel Shares at \$32. Hall and Holtz are reported at \$23. Miscellaneous.—A single transaction is reported in Telephones at Tls. 62½. Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Co. are quoted at \$25. Loans and Debentures.—No business reported. Shanghai Land Debentures 6 per cent. can be had at Tls. 96 and Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures are quoted at Tls. 97.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 29th June.—Freights remain at about the same lower as last reported. From Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents nominal; to Philippines, several small carriers have been closed at 24 cents; to Japan, no demand, to Java, a 48,000 picul steamer has been closed to load a part cargo at a comparatively low rate. From North Coast Java to this, 25/26 cents per picul for wet sugar. From Newchwang to Canton, 19 cents nominal. From Oloilo to this, 18 cents last. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$1.30 per ton. Time charters. The Norwegian steamer *Frithjof* has been fixed by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for 3 months, at \$4,350 per month. The following are the settlements:—

Ambria—German steamer, 3,351 tons, Moji to Hongkong (part cargo), \$1.30 per ton.

Kowloon—German steamer, Wakamatsu to Canton \$2.00, Hongkong \$1.30 per ton.

Labor—Norwegian steamer, 949 tons, Hakata to Swatow, \$1.50 per ton.

Sexta—German steamer, 987 tons, Singapore, to Shanghai, \$11,500 lump sum.

Falk—Norwegian steamer, 1,380 tons, Natuna Island to Hongkong, \$13,000 lump sum.

Peik—Norwegian steamer, 744 tons, Oloilo to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Lisa—Swedish steamer, 1,216 tons, two ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, 28 cents per picul.

Cairo—Norwegian steamer, 1,381 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java and two ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, private terms.

Fiume—German steamer, 538 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 24 cents per picul.

Binhuan—French steamer, 993 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (25,000 piculs), 24 cents per picul.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 857 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (22,000 piculs), 24 cents per picul.

Peik—Norwegian steamer, 744 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 24 cents per picul.

Frithjof—Norwegian steamer, 291 tons, monthly, 3 months, at \$4,350 per month.

FREIGHT.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) Tea 39/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland) Tea 6. 11½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai: Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—ARRIVALS.

28, Aberlour, British str., from Moji.
 28, Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 28, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Esang, British str., from Newchwang.
 28, Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 28, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 29, Arconia, Russian str., from Vladivostok.
 29, Devanha, British str., from Bombay.
 29, Empire, British str., from Melbourne.
 29, Fri, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 29, Hongkong, French str., from Hongkong.
 29, Iltis, German gunboat, from Canton.
 29, Indrasamha, British str., from Amoy.
 29, Lyra, American str., from Manila.
 29, Sungkiang, British str., from Cebu.
 29, Taishan, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Tean, British str., from Manila.
 30, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 30, Skuld, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 30, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., from Newcastle.
 30, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
 30, Akashi Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 30, Cadmus, British sloop, from Shanghai.
 30, Lyeemoon, German str., from Wuhu.
 30, Nippon, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 30, Orestes, British str., from Liverpool.

July—

1, Alesia, German str., from Hamburg.
 1, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 1, Colombo Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 1, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 1, Kweiyang, British str., from Chefoo.
 1, Montague, British str., from Vancouver.
 1, Murex, British str., from Balik Papan.
 1, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
 1, Sierra Monera, Brit. str., from Sourabaya.
 1, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 2, Chowfa, German str., from Kobsichang.
 2, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 2, Dakota, American str., from Seattle.
 2, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 2, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 2, Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
 2, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
 2, Prinz Sigismund, Ger. str., from Sydney.
 2, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 2, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 3, Ajax, British str., from Foochow.
 3, Bayern, German str., from Bremen.
 3, Benavon, British str., from Moji.
 3, Emp. of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 3, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
 3, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 3, Ingalls, U.S. transport, from Manila.
 3, Kalgan, British str., from Shanghai.
 4, Castor, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
 4, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
 4, Euphrate, French str., from Antwerp.
 4, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
 4, Ischia, Italian str., from Bombay.
 4, Meafoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 4, Oanfa, British str., from London.
 4, Peshawur, British str., from Foochow.
 4, Rein, Norwegian str., from Rajang.
 4, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., from Macassar.
 4, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
 4, Zieten, German str., from Yokohama.
 4, Zingara, British str., from Moji.
 5, Apenrade, German str., from Pakhoi.
 5, Catherine Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 5, Nubia, British str., from London.
 5, Trym, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 5, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 6, Ambria, German str., from Moji.
 6, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 6, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 6, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., from S. F. cisco.
 6, Huichow, British str., from Tientsin.
 6, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.
 6, Kanji Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 6, Kiangping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 6, Prometheus, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
 6, Spezia, German str., from Hamburg.
 6, Taikoson Maru, Jap. str., from K'notsu.
 6, Taming, British str., from Manila.
 6, Tjimahi, Dutch str., from Amoy.
 7, Amara, British str., from Hongay.
 7, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 7, Kobsichang, Ger. str., from Kobsichang.
 7, Kowloon, German str., from Wakamatsu.
 7, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 7, Masan Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.
 7, Numantia, German str., from Portland.

7, Peik, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 8, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 8, Cranley, British str., from Durban.
 8, Fooksang, British str., from Calcutta.
 8, Kwangta, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 8, Liangchow, British str., from Bangkok.
 8, Ujina Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.

June—DEPARTURES.

29, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 29, Cairo, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 29, Glenturret, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
 29, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 29, Tientsin, British str., for Bangkok.
 30, Amara, British str., for Hongay.
 30, Arcadia, British str., for Europe.
 30, Australian, British str., for Sydney.
 30, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 30, Devanha, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Coast Ports.
 30, Gregory Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 30, Indravelli, British str., for Chefoo.
 30, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 30, Mansang, British str., for Sandakan.
 30, Monmouth, British cruiser, for Japan.
 30, Naushan, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Pakhoi, British str., for Kobe.
 30, Petchaburi, German str., for Amoy.
 30, Rajah, German str., for Bangkok.
 30, Samsen, German str., for Bangkok.
 30, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 30, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

July—

1, Arconia, Russian str., for Singapore.
 1, Cheysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Empire, British str., for Moji.
 1, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 1, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Indrasamha, British str., for New York.
 1, Joshi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 1, Luehow, British str., for Chinkiang.
 1, Phu-yen, French str., for Phanrang.
 1, Childar, British str., for Bangkok.
 2, Orestes, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Thea, German str., for Queen Island.
 3, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 3, Heim, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 3, Keemun, British str., for Singapore.
 3, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 3, Lyra, American str., for Tacoma.
 3, Nippon, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 3, Progress, Ger. str., for Kwangchowwan.
 3, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Spithead, British str., for Nagasaki.
 3, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 3, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notsu.
 4, Akashi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 4, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
 4, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 4, Chunsang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 4, Colombo Maru, Japanese str., for Bombay.
 4, Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 4, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 4, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 4, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Murex, British str., for Singapore.
 4, Powhatan, British str., for Singapore.
 4, Prinz Sigismund, German str., for Kobe.
 4, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Batavia.
 4, Wongkoi, German str., for Hoihow.
 5, Ajax, British str., for London.
 5, Alesia, German str., for Shanghai.
 5, Castor, Norwegian str., for Amoy.
 5, Cheongshing, British str., for Chefoo.
 5, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 5, Euphrate, French str., for Shanghai.
 5, Hue, French str., for Kwangchowwan.
 5, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
 5, Zieten, German str., for Europe.
 6, Canton Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 6, Fri, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 6, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
 6, Knutsford, French str., for Batavia.
 6, Laisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 6, Manchuria, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 6, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
 6, Sungkiang, British str., for Iloilo.
 6, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
 6, Vittoria, British str., for Saigon.
 6, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 6, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 7, Lyeemoon, German str., for Nagasaki.
 7, Oanfa, British str., for Yokohama.
 7, Peshawur, British str., for London.
 7, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.

7, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 7, Skuld, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 7, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
 8, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
 8, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 8, Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
 8, Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
 8, Nubia, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Spezia, German str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Devanha, for Hongkong from Bombay, Mr. H. S. Karavans; from Colombo, Mrs. Hall Wright, Mr. M. Rosendahl, Miss M. Hadden, Mr. T. W. Meacham; from Singapore, Major, Mrs. and Miss Barrett, Messrs. Fletcher, Valpy, W. A. Dowley, Mr. and Mrs. Burns, Messrs. W. E. Goreh, Mack'etun, J. Jacob; for Shanghai from Bombay, Mr. K. Kodama; from Colombo, Messrs. R. M. Moskaliet H. Solomon, G. Rizzi, J. Moore, J. K. Steele, G. Lighton, J. McKenzie, J. R. Busfield, R. G. Gibbs, W. J. Grey, S. Lee and J. Hardy; from Singapore, Mr. G. F. Phillips; for Yokohama from Colombo, Messrs. J. E. B. Storey, J. Cance, Miss Wills, Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf and 3 children, Messrs. T. M. Leaf, F. C. Hogg, Miss F. Marsden, Miss Brinck; from Singapore, Mr. E. Shenton.

Per Dakota, from Seattle, &c., Comdr. J. G. Quinby, Chaplin W. T. Helms, Messrs. Wm. H. McIntyre, A. W. Metter, Miss Florence Tompkins, Mrs. F. R. Rowell, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Colvin, Mrs. Thos. Bordeaux, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Seeley, Mrs. F. H. Lebold, Messrs. S. J. Fuller, Yataro Okita, Miss Sallie Blanchard, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Field, Miss G. W. Newton, Mr. Roy A. Wells, Miss B. A. Quigley, Miss Delia Culligan, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Carraher, Miss Imogene Carraher, Miss Mortimer B. Carraher, Mr. S. L. Dreifus, Mrs. E. M. Breder, Mr. A. J. Kendrick, Lieut. H. G. Sparrow, Miss Bartha Doltz, Messrs. H. C. Courtenay, C. R. Bennett.

Per Bayern, for Hongkong from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fokken, Messrs. J. C. Schmidt, Hans Lehmann, Carl Schuhardt; from Naples, Mr. J. F. McConnochie; from Aden, Mr. J. S. Chubb; from Penang, Messrs. Leono and Fee, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Hasaloo, Miss Ha sloop; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Ramsey, Mr. F. W. Bencklerck, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Guldanoar, Messrs. H. Hooker and J. E. Jous, Mrs. A. Cunningham, Mr. W. L. Schameier.

Per Hongkong Maru, for Hongkong from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McGrath, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Plumb, Mrs. J. H. Martin, Mrs. S. M. Taylor, Rev. St. Clair Hester, Messrs. I. A. Cantor, W. F. Frazier, D. L. Hargis; from Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. G. P. Jordan, Mr. P. Q. Rothrock; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Matsuda and two children, Mr. C. Humphreys; from Shanghai, Master and Mrs. A. Fuchs, Mrs. E. Ehmer, Miss E. Fuchs, Miss Smith, Miss Kramer, Masters H. and A. Fuchs and Mr. Y. F. Moule and servant.

DEPARTED.

Per Arcadia, from Shanghai for London, Sergt. W. Gray for Marseilles, Mr. W. Smith; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. James; for Colombo, Capt. J. R. Clarke, Miss Gillingham; from Yokohama for London, Dr. W. G. Brett; from Kobe for Bombay, Mr. D. W. Roberts; from Hongkong for London, Mr. and Mrs. A. Moss, Lieut. F. B. Noble, Mrs. E. Buxton Foreman, Mr. F. S. Ryner; for New York, Mr. and Mrs. Armitage; for Colombo, Mr. L. Gubbins.

Per Bayern, for Shanghai, Messrs. Almeida, A. M. Barradas, Wm. Masny, C. R. Blumenberg, W. E. Godson, A. Leon, P. Gillet, R. Kawahara, Mrs. Walter; for Nagasaki, Mr. E. A. Nicholls, Mr. and Mrs. Kuroki, Messrs. S. Kesekawa, Miyasaki, Hsaba and Matsuda; for Kobe, Messrs. de Bys, J. H. de Sitter, Mackertoon, Kokam, Shrotiawa, Oyama, Tanaka, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, Miss C. Bostick, Miss Wuldan; for Yokohama, Messrs. Busch, C. Becker, Jacobs, Baslet, Mrs. Smith.

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